

Chamber Adopts Christmas Plan

Beaufort to Feature Pirate's Chest; Santa To Arrive Dec. 4

The Beaufort Chamber of Commerce has adopted for 1957 the same Christmas program it used last year. Chamber directors met Tuesday night. A special meeting of the Christmas committee preceded the regular meeting.

Santa Claus will come to town Dec. 4 and lead a parade down Front Street. Bands from Newport, Havelock, Morehead City, Beaufort and Queen Street will be invited to participate. Boy and Girl Scouts, Cubs and Brownies will march in the parade.

The Pirate's Chest of Silver giveaway will be conducted this year. There will be four drawings. Businesses that are members of the chamber will give tickets to customers. Ticket stubs will be drawn Dec. 7, 14, 21 and 24.

The drawings will be conducted at 2 p. m. There will be \$100 in cash and \$50 in gift certificates for each drawing.

The firemen will repair Christmas street decorations that the town bought several years ago. They will put up lights as well as other decorations.

Members of the Christmas committee are William Roy Hamilton, chairman, Ray Cummins, Jim Wheatley and Mrs. Ben Jones.

At the regular chamber meeting, president Ronald Earl Mason introduced a plan to get a harbor of refuge in Gallant's Creek. He said that the federal government might dredge the harbor if it could be used as a refuge during storms.

The harbor would serve a dual purpose, he pointed out. It would relieve the crowded waterfront conditions on Front Street and provide a good harbor in storms. The chamber voted to support the plan.

Directors present in addition to those already mentioned were Norwood Young, Halsey Paul, C. W. Stamper, David Jones, Gerald Hill and Dr. David Farrior.

Atlantic Hearing Held Last Night

The hearing on water resources, scheduled for tonight at Atlantic was changed to last night, H. S. Gibbs, chairman of the county water committee, reported yesterday. In charge of the meeting was Clayton Fulcher Jr.

Dates of the other two water hearings have been set. The hearing at Newport will be at 7:45 Monday night in the PTA Center, following the Newport Rotary Club meeting. Leon Mann Jr. will be in charge.

The Beaufort hearing will be at 7:30 p. m. Tuesday in the courthouse, W. H. Potter in charge.

The water hearings are being conducted to learn, firsthand, what residents' water problems are, such as drainage, flooding, lack of fresh water, etc.

After the Beaufort hearing, information obtained in the six hearings throughout the county will be compiled and sent to the State Board of Water Commissioners.

Hit-and-Runner Damages Car

A 1946 Dodge belonging to Mrs. Joe Beam, 2307 Arendell St., Morehead City, was smashed in a hit and run accident sometime early Tuesday morning.

Sgt. Bill Condie, Morehead City police officer, said the Dodge was parked in front of the Beam home on the grass plot about midnight Monday.

The next morning Mr. Beam said he saw the rear end smashed in. The car was parked facing west. Its damage amounted to about \$125.

Sergeant Condie said that the car that hit it was going east and that it was either a 1955 or 1956 Oldsmobile, Holiday model. Investigation is continuing.

Mrs. Leonard Safrit Reports on Fund Drive

Mrs. Leonard Safrit, neighborhood chairman of the Girl Scouts, Beaufort, reported Wednesday that the Girl Scout fund drive is nearing its goal of \$400.

Mrs. Safrit said that over \$200 was collected in a recent door-to-door canvass, and up to now the total received is \$320.

Assaults Woman

Charles Hester, Beaufort, was picked up on a warrant Wednesday night by Chief of Police Guy Springle. Hester allegedly assaulted Or-garnae Garrison by pushing her out of the house and cutting her clothes with a knife on the night of Oct. 11.

Planning Board Acts On Flowers-Way Issue

The Beaufort town planning board met Wednesday night at the town hall and granted Dr. John Way an easement to build on his lot at Front and Sea View Streets. Dr. Way's proposed house, he explained, will be too wide to have the ordinance-required 8-foot side yard on each side. The lot is 50 feet wide.

The planning board insisted that Dr. Way leave the 8-foot yard between his house and the right-of-way of Sea View Street (on the east), so his neighbor on the west, W. C. Flowers, signed an agreement to let Dr. Way build to within 3 feet of the Flowers property line.

Mr. Flowers agreed before the meeting to accept any decision reached by the planning board. Dr. Way said that he had already cut 2 feet off his house and thought to cut it any more would ruin it. He said that he had been paying taxes on the lot since 1920 and that the law requiring 8-foot side yards was working a hardship on him and the town.

"If I build on the lot, the town will get extra revenue through taxes," he said. He suggested that his house extend a little beyond

the required building line on each side.

Halsey Paul, chairman of the planning board, said that if he built too close to Sea View Street people having lots facing that street would feel that they were building in his back yard.

Mr. Paul asked building inspector Gerald Woolard to find a map of the area in question. Mr. Woolard found charts and maps of Carteret County, Atlantic Beach, Front Street extension from the city limits eastward and a cemetery, but none of Beaufort.

The planning board finally agreed that three lots at the most would be affected. They decided that the 8 feet should be maintained, but that Dr. Way could build closer to his west line if Mr. Flowers would agree to it.

Mr. Flowers said that anything the planning board decided was all right with him and signed the release. His only request was that the doctor ask the contractors to be careful while working near his shrubbery at the property line.

Members of the planning board attending the meeting were Dr. David Farrior, J. O. Barbour Jr. and D. F. Merrill.

Fulchers Undertake New Shrimp Packing Process

By WADE LUCAS

Atlantic—Here at this old and picturesque fishing village a determined effort is being made to do what Gov. Luther H. Hodges and others are strongly advocating.

And that is the processing, packaging and marketing of North Carolina seafood products under a brand name that leaves no doubt the seafood was caught, processed, and attractively packaged in the Tar Heel State.

The Fulchers are using a package developed by a New Jersey concern. It is designed to keep shrimp in the shell (heads off) ocean-fresh for two weeks or more.

New Type Pouch
"We shopped around quite a bit before we found what we wanted in what is known as a perforated poly-cel pouch in which to package shrimp and other seafood," said Clayton Fulcher Jr., who is active head of the Clayton Fulcher Seafood Co.

Mr. Fulcher said fresh shrimp caught in North Carolina waters and processed and packaged in the perforated, plastic bags at Atlantic have been found to have a 14-day life. Extensive bacteriological tests proved that. Refrigeration does not impair the flavor of the shrimp, either, Mr. Fulcher added.

Right now the big problem confronting the Fulchers is a lack of shrimp. "Nor-easter weather," as commercial fishermen call it, has played havoc with shrimping and other forms of commercial fishing.

N. C. Brand Name
Chosen as a brand name for the Atlantic processed and packaged shrimp is "Diamond Shoals", a

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Three Injured In Monday Crash

Two women and a baby were injured in an automobile accident at 6:15 p. m. Monday at the intersection of Highway 70 and 70A west of Morehead City.

There were Mrs. Violet M. Ackerson, mother of one of the drivers, Mrs. Ada Acklin and the baby, Mary Virginia, all of Morehead City. They were treated at the Morehead City Hospital and discharged.

Involved in the wreck were a 1957 Buick driven by Arthur O. Ackerson Jr., route 1 Morehead City, and a 1946 Pontiac driven by Willie Acklin, who fishes for Beaufort Fisheries. Acklin's car was owned by A. Acklin, 1204 Fisher St., Morehead City.

Patrolman J. W. Sykes said that Acklin was going east on Highway 70A when Ackerson, who was headed west on the dual-lane 70 pulled out in front of Acklin.

Ackerson has been charged with failing to yield the right-of-way. Acklin claims Ackerson did not stop at the stop sign just west of the Shell Service station.

Damage to a state highway sign was estimated at \$20. The cars were extensively damaged.

The Acklins were taken to the hospital in the Dill ambulance. Mrs. Acklin's left ankle was injured and the baby's mouth and tongue were cut. Mrs. Ackerson suffered bruises.

Captain of Ship Who Picked Up Melvin West Tells of Incident

Mrs. Melvin West Hopes Husband Will 'Hurry Up'

By LOCKWOOD PHILLIPS

In a telephone interview Wednesday night Capt. Elias J. Mavis of the tanker which picked up Mel West, said that West requested only water and matches.

Captain Mavis, whose ship, the Aldebaran, docked Wednesday night at Bayway, N. J., said he tried to convince West to go to New Jersey with them, but Mel refused.

West, son of Mr. and Mrs. Barry West, who operate the Triple-Ess fishing pier near Morehead City, set out for Bermuda Thursday, Oct. 17, in a 15-foot 3-inch outboard motorboat. He had hoped to arrive at Bermuda sometime Saturday, Oct. 19.

People Concerned

When nothing was heard from him, people became worried. A full-scale search by Coast Guard ships, planes and flying box cars was under way when the Coast Guard, Norfolk, was notified Monday afternoon that West had been picked up by the Aldebaran 240 miles from Cape Lookout. That point was 342 miles from Bermuda.

Until THE NEWS-TIMES contact with Captain Mavis, no one knew why West was still so far from his destination.

Captain Mavis, who spoke broken English, explained: "He was fighting high seas and he was also having trouble with his kerosene pipe (fuel line)."

Needed No Fuel

Captain Mavis said West did not need any fuel and he did not take any with him from the tanker. He also added that there was nothing wrong with either his motor or the hull of the boat.

The Coast Guard dispatch from Norfolk Monday said that West's boat had been "repaired" aboard the Aldebaran.

The Aldebaran's captain said that his second mate saw a little signal flag West had hoisted. This was about 3 p. m. Monday (which probably would have been about 2 p. m. our time here).

The Aldebaran stopped and Mel brought his outboard alongside. He came up a ladder the tank crew lowered for him. He was in good health.

In Good Health

"He looked in fine health to me," the captain said. "I offered to pull his boat up and take him to New York, but he said no, he was going on to Bermuda."

"I told him 'I think you're craz-ee,'" Captain Mavis related. The crewmen offered him food. He said no, he didn't want food, because he could fish. He just wanted some water and matches.

"But the steward finally forced him to take some food anyhow," Captain Mavis added. "I also gave him a bottle of whiskey."

At the time of the pick-up, the skipper said two Coast Guard planes were circling overhead and the Aldebaran signaled to them that they had West.

Mel Continues

After getting a new fix on course, West went overboard, got in his skiff and set off, Bermuda-bound. A Coast Guard plane flew over him for a short while.

The Aldebaran was carrying fuel oil from Amay, Venezuela, to New York. The tanker is under charter to Panama Transport, a subsidiary of Esso Shipping Co.



Mrs. Melvin West anxiously awaits word from her husband who yesterday was believed on his way to Bermuda. Their children are, left to right, Melva, Barry J. and Morty.

time someone comes in. Even though the Coast Guard has not launched a second full-scale search for her husband, Mrs. West had high hopes that he would either make the trip successfully or be spotted soon.

The Coast Guard announced yesterday that "further search plans will be considered when situation deemed urgent." James Hunnings, Group Commander of the Fort Macon Coast Guard station, said that all shipping had been alerted to be on the lookout for West.

"All planes making duty flights out of Bermuda have been ordered to be on the lookout for him," Mr. Hunnings added.

Mrs. West firmly believes that her husband can make the trip "if it can be made." She says, "He was so confident while he was making plans for the trip that we never doubted that he would make it."

She says that Mel is on leave of absence from his job on a Jacksonville radio station. "So far as I know he will go back to work there as soon as he comes home," she declares.

If he makes the voyage, however, his job may have to wait for a while. He will undoubtedly be the toast of Bermuda, where thousands anxiously await him. His publicity agent, Charles Markey, hopes for big things after the return trip. A round of the top tv shows is already being planned.

Ronald Harpe, of radio station WMBL, Morehead City, talked yesterday morning with Mr. Markey, who is in Hamilton, Bermuda. Mr. Markey said that London and Bermuda newspapers are covering the West trip, and that English News Film Inc., a tv company, and the British Broadcasting Co. have representatives covering the story.

Mr. Markey said Bermuda's weather yesterday morning was bad, a strong northeast wind blowing. He added, however, that the Bermuda Coast Guard people were not worried. Since Mel weathered the rough seas encountered right after he left Morehead City, they had faith in his seamanship.

It is hoped that Mel will arrive in Bermuda sometime today.

Foot Broken In Freak Wreck

James F. Hinkle Jr., 113 1/2 Circle Drive, Beaufort, suffered a broken foot at 5 p. m. Sunday at Beach View Esso Service Station, 24th and Arendell Streets, Morehead City.

According to Sgt. Bill Condie, Morehead City police force, Hinkle was sitting in the service area with his foot sticking out the door of a car.

James Rogers, 16, of 206 N. 9th St., Morehead City, driving a 1950 Studebaker, was going west on Arendell Street. He cut into the service station, but his brakes failed, the sergeant said, and his car caught Hinkle's foot.

There was no damage to Rogers' car. Damage to the 1947 Pontiac in which Hinkle was sitting was estimated at \$100. No charges were filed.

County Fair Week Nears End



The county fair was in full swing Wednesday afternoon, children's day. This shot, taken from the top of the ferris wheel, shows the midway with the two exhibit balls in the background. The fair closes tomorrow night.

Contacting Aldebaran's Captain Was Some Job!

Contacting Capt. Elias J. Mavis of the Aldebaran was not easy. Radio-telephone was tried, but the Aldebaran was not equipped with radio telephone. With the help of Robert Hicks, Morehead City, Walter Friederics and Mrs. Robert Hicks at the state port; Sidney Weir, public relations director, Esso Shipping Co., New York, and a personal friend of the editor's in New York, the Aldebaran's docking point was finally learned.

The Morehead City long distance operator did a splendid job in getting in contact with Captain Mavis at Bayway, N. J., Wednesday night.

When information of the call was gotten to him, he said he was not going to talk, he said he was going home!

But finally, he got on the phone. Probably Scandinavian, he explained that it was very difficult for him to talk on the phone and he didn't want to say anything.

When he was told that the phone call was from Beaufort, North Carolina, he was impressed and willingly answered the questions asked.

THE NEWS-TIMES sincerely hopes that Mel gets to his destination. But if he doesn't, personnel aboard the Aldebaran would be the only ones who could clear up the mystery about the first four days of his trip.

To Go to Grand Jury
Mary Packs' case will go to the grand jury in the November term of court. Mary, a migrant worker, is charged with killing her common-law husband, Robert Lee Thompson, at Crab Point June 23. She is being held in the county jail.

Tide Table
Tides at the Beaufort Bar

Table with columns for HIGH and LOW tides for Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Monday.

Beaufort Rescue Squad Elects Officers Monday

Beaufort's rescue squad met Monday night at the fire station and elected officers.

Charles Harrell, as chief of the fire department, heads the squad. Its other officers are Virgil Woolard, assistant chief; Eugene Garner, captain; Ronnie Smith, lieutenant; and Clarence Davis Jr., recording secretary.

The squad is the only one in the county affiliated with the North Carolina Association of Rescue Squads, Assistant Chief Woolard said.

Mr. Woolard and Captain Garner attended the organizational session of the state association at Laurinburg, and more recently the state convention at Greensboro.

They gave a report on that session at Monday's meeting. Mr. Woolard was elected a state director and Mr. Garner was a delegate from this region, which includes 10 counties. The only rescue squads affiliated with the state association in this 10-county area, Mr. Woolard said, are Greenville and Beaufort.

Rules and rescue squad regulations were reviewed Monday night. The Beaufort rescue squad, Mr. Woolard explained, is available for service in all parts of the county.

The duty of the rescue squad is to save life, he said. The squad is available in any case where there is bleeding, stoppage of breathing, or other injuries from an accident. Its members are trained to give first aid until a doctor arrives.

At present, plans are being made to have the squad see movies to be shown by the Navy Relief Association at Cherry Point.

The squad checked its equipment and had a short drill before adjourning. Meetings will be held at 7 p. m. the first Monday of each month at the fire station.

Drivers Appeal Fines Monday

William J. Carter and Hazel B. Small appealed judgments in Morehead City recorder's court Monday. They were convicted of racing and speeding 70 miles per hour. Judge Herbert Phillips fined each \$100 and costs. Their bonds were set at \$200.

The defendants declared that they had never seen each other before. He is from Beaufort and she is from Beaufort RFD. They entered pleas of guilty to speeding but said that they were not racing.

Tommie Lewis Rose was fined \$125 and costs for driving drunk, careless and reckless driving and driving on the wrong side of the road.

William Henry Jones was fined \$100 and costs for driving drunk. Others getting fines were William Thomas Wade, \$10 and costs, speeding; Myrtle Willis Lawrence, costs, running a stop sign; and Herbert W. Rhodes, costs, speeding.

Two cases were not tried. Calvin Fenner was not tried for receiving stolen money from Clayton Fenner since the \$11 involved had been recovered. Lucien Bren-ton was not tried for hit and run due to lack of evidence.

Cases were continued against Otis Simmons, Ira D. Settle and Lon J. Perkins.

Inspection Team Visits Fort Macon CG Station

An inspection team from Fifth Coast Guard District headquarters, Norfolk, visited the Fort Macon Coast Guard Station Tuesday. The team inspected all equipment and facilities of the station.

Members of the team were Capt. R. E. Mroczkowski, operations officer, Fifth Coast Guard District; Capt. G. F. Schumacher, chief of Fifth Coast Guard District engineering division; Cdr. O. G. Cowie, Chief of electronics section, Fifth Coast Guard District.

Cdr. R. S. Feola, chief of civil engineering, Fifth Coast Guard District; Lt. Cdr. W. J. Quamme, comptroller, Fifth Coast Guard District; and Lt. W. S. Schwob Jr., communications officer, Fifth Coast Guard District.