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KILL DEVIL HILLS' TOWN COMMISSIONERS CONDUCT FIRST OFFICIAL SESSION

Mayor Points to Zoning, Water Supply as Most Pressing Goals For Newly Incorporated Community; Financial Possibilities Are Given Consideration.

Zoning, public access to the ocean and water supply were among goals mentioned when the mayor and commissioners of the newly organized town of Kill Devil Hills had their first official meeting Thursday night of last week at the Edgewater hotel.

Finances also came in for an airing. The North Carolina League of Municipalities had advised Mayor J. L. Murphy of several sources of revenue for which the new town is eligible.

One of these sources is State Highway and Public Works commission funds, use of which is restricted to improvement of streets. This may amount to as much as \$2,500 to \$3,500. To be eligible for this money this year, certain information must be supplied before June 30. This includes a population estimate, approved by the county commissioners. Mayor Murphy said he hoped this estimate could be on an average basis, since the population varies from about 500 in winter to 6,000 to 7,000 in summer. Street mileage also is involved and in this connection the mayor said that Kill Devil Hills probably had as much as any incorporated town in the county.

To be eligible for this fund, a map of the town must be provided. Since the town has no money at present, Capt. L. H. Lewark offered to lend \$200 to have this map made. Since the town cannot legally obligate itself at this time, the loan was made on a gentleman's agreement basis. At the suggestion of Commissioner Herbert Morrison, board authorized the mayor to have Lindberg Engineers of Burlington prepare the needed map. This firm has previously made a map of the larger sanitary district, so that much of the work is already done.

B. M. Hedrick, a Kill Devil Hills resident who attended the meeting, suggested that copies of the map would find ready buyers and such sales would help pay the expenses. The mayor said he also had been advised that the new town was entitled to its proportion of intangible taxes paid to the county, and to a share in the beer and wine tax refund and a part of the franchise tax paid by public utilities doing business in the community. The mayor was authorized to apply for all funds due the town.

Before June 30 the commissioners must adopt a budget, the mayor told them. On that basis it may be necessary, he said, to levy some "small" tax, to pay for such minor expenses as the salary of the city clerk, Mrs. Mille Osmon, who, the commissioners voted, is to be paid \$1.25 an hour.

In connection with zoning, one of the principal reasons for incorporation, Mayor Murphy said that two high sources had given him contradictory opinions on the law, as to whether a zoning board of three would have to be made up exclusively of year-around residents of Kill Devil Hills or could include non-resident freeholders. He was authorized to look further into the situation.

On the question of a water supply for the community, the mayor said he had checked on the status of a sanitary district created four years ago. He found that an application for an \$850,000 federal loan had been approved by the Atlanta office, was now in Washington, but was not likely to receive favorable consideration unless some pressure from beach residents was brought.

Such a loan would involve a bond issue for which taxpayers would have to carry the sinking fund for the first years. Because there is some doubt that a bond issue for the sanitary district would be approved, the mayor suggested the possibility of the part of the sanitary district within the corporate limits of Kill Devil Hills go ahead with the plans to provide water for that area, with the understanding that if the areas to north and south ever wanted to add on, see SESSION, Page Eight

DRIVE FOR VOTE ON LIQUOR IN DARE COUNTY

Petitions Show Large Majority of Citizens Desire Election to Be Held

Petitions are now being circulated in Dare County to be presented the Dare County Board of Elections requesting that an election be held in November on whether Dare shall close or continue operating its liquor stores.

Under the law it is mandatory dry leaders insist, that such elections be held if as many as 15 per cent of those registered to vote in the last prior general election for Governor sign the petition.

Reports will be circulated over the entire county. A thorough canvass is now being made of Wanchese. Fifty per cent of Stumpy Point voters are reported to have signed, and far larger percentage is expected from the Outer Banks. Of 82 canvassed in Manteo, 78 signed.

Of course in signing the petition no indication may be deducted as to the probable vote to be cast. Signers only indicate that they favor the legal right of the people to express themselves under a Democracy, at the polls, on an important question of public interest.

FOUL FISHING WEATHER ENDS FIRST OF WEEK; ANGLERS MAKE CATCHES

After weeks of foul fishing weather anglers on the Dare coast from Nags Head and Oregon Inlet to Buxton and Hatteras were getting better breaks early this week. Catches were being reported daily in Oregon Inlet and along the surf to Hatteras, Channel bass was the principal fish taken.

Best catch was seven bass taken at Oregon Inlet on Tuesday. Trolling from Capt. Milton Perry's cruiser "Mary", they got seven, the largest a 46 pounder. These men included Ralph G. Wilson, 3680 38th Street, Washington, William J. McDonald 10205 Menlo Avenue, Silver Springs Maryland and James E. Burkett of Clarksville in Green County Pennsylvania. On the preceding Friday Rock Brokaw and party of five fishing with Capt. C. L. Stallings had accounted for seven big bass, none weighing less than 35 pounds. Those were the two best catches of the week in the area.

Frequent shifts of wind had kept the water so murky that channel bass would not strike trolled lures during most of April. One commercial crew caught 192 channel bass in one day of hauling near Oregon Inlet. On the same day a dozen or more anglers trolling nearby failed to get a strike.

Hatteras Report

Last week end reports came in from Hatteras and Buxton that anglers were beginning to catch sea mullet, trout and flounder in the surf. Then they started catching puppy drum which is the young of channel bass. By Tuesday of this week the reports from Hatteras surf-casters indicated that larger bass were being caught. Ray Basnett, hooked and brought to the beach a 49-pounder which was not the largest taken this season, but definitely the largest taken since late March and early April.

Offshore Fishing

Turbulent seas prevented Gulf Stream anglers from going offshore last week end. Three boats started from Hatteras but turned back. Before Capt. Hallis Foster on Albatross II turned back the party aboard accounted for two fish, one a dolphin.

METHODIST FAMILY NIGHT

Family Night will be observed next Thursday night at the Methodist Church in Manteo. Services will begin at 7:30, and parents and children are asked to attend together. There will be a program, recreation and refreshments.

FOUR HEARINGS ARE SCHEDULED NEXT TUESDAY

Warrant Sworn Out for Pat Bayne After Portsmouth Youth Is Shot in Left Thigh

As a result of fracas on the beach Saturday night, four persons face charges in recorder's court May 12. Because of election, no court was held this week and the cases were put over to next Tuesday.

Pat Bayne, owner and operator of Jockey Ridge restaurant, is charged with assault with a deadly weapon and inflicting serious and painful injuries on Frank Drake, 15, of Portsmouth. Mr. Bayne is under bond. The Drake boy told officers that he, with other boys, parked their car in front of the restaurant while they climbed Jockey Ridge. When they returned to the car, he said, a man came out on the upstairs porch, ordered them away and before they could go shot at them. The Drake boy was shot in the left thigh, but his condition is not regarded as critical, though he was taken to a Portsmouth hospital. Four shots, believed to be from a .22 calibre rifle, penetrated the car.

Mr. Bayne's account of the events, as repeated by Sheriff Frank Cohoon, is that the boys had been banging on the restaurant door after closing hours. He asked them to leave, but they returned and continued to raise a disturbance, he said.

Although he got a black eye in the process, Officer D. F. Twyne arrested George P. Jones, attached to the naval air station at Weeksville, Saturday night, at the Casino. Jones is said to have struck both Twyne and a member of the shore patrol. He faces charges of creating a disturbance in a public place, being drunk and disorderly, resisting arrest, assaulting an officer and using violent and indecent language in a public place. Jones, who made bond, will also be courtmartialed, Sheriff Cohoon said.

John J. Costello, also of the naval air station at Weeksville, was charged with being drunk and disorderly and engaging in an affray. He was released under bond.

J. C. Shelton of Suffolk, Va., also arrested at the Casino, was charged with public drunkenness, fighting and disturbing the peace, and was released under bond to appear May 12. Twyne made all three arrests.

REBEKAHS INITIATE FOUR NEW MEMBERS

Four new members were initiated Monday night into the Manteo Rebekah Lodge by the degree team, when the group met in the Lodge hall. They were Mrs. E. C. Twiford and Mrs. Sarah Lewark of Kill Devil Hills, Mrs. Hattin Midgett, Jr., and Mrs. Rowan Quidley of Manteo.

Final plans were made for attending the State Assembly which will meet in Statesville May 17-20. Mrs. Crendon Midgett is delegate, with Mrs. Anita Jessen as alternate. Both plan to attend.

During the social hour lemonade, sandwiches and cookies were served.

FAMILY REUNION SUNDAY

Mother's Day, May 10, will be the occasion for a family reunion of the John T. Daniels family of Manteo. The home of Mr. and Mrs. Hal Daniels in Weldon has been chosen as the most centrally located spot for the family to gather. Expected to attend will be Mrs. John T. Daniels, Mrs. Madge Barber, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Pearce, Misses Margaret and Lois Pearce of Manteo; Mr. and Mrs. D. Fitzgerald Daniels of New Bern; Mr. and Mrs. Archie Daniels of Draper; Mr. and Mrs. S. Jordan and family of Danville, Va., and of course Mr. and Mrs. Hal Daniels and children of Weldon.

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PONDER STEPS TO RESTORE BURNED AREA IN DARE

Pulp Company Making Plans for Re-Seeding Property; Map Shows Area Burned

Foresters of West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company have begun a broad study of the company's fire-swept woodlands along Croatan Sound in an effort to determine what preliminary steps will be taken to restore the area ravaged by last week's destructive fire. A map of the burned area is shown on page 8 of this week's paper.

The fire, which began Sunday morning at the intersection of Point Peter Canal and Highway 264, swept through more than 17,000 acres of growing pine and pine seedlings before it was brought under control Thursday evening. It is estimated that the fire cost the company about 10 to 15 years progress in its forest development program, as well as many thousands of dollars.

William Ernst, Jr., of Manteo, manager of the company's North Carolina Woodlands, said that restoring growth of the proper species on fire-damaged land is a difficult job because of the vast acreage involved and the complete re-stocking that must be accomplished by artificial methods. With the loss by fire of all seed trees, the next crop must be established largely by man's efforts.

Such artificial reforestation requires the successful duplication of nature's efforts and involves many problems. It is necessary to locate and collect large quantities of pine seed, properly prepare them for planting, and then distribute them over large areas in such a way that growth will be assured. Proper moisture conditions must be present for early growth of seed, rodent and bird feeding of the seed often brings failure to these efforts; in addition, insect damage may be an important factor in preventing the successful establishment of pine stands. Years will be required to bring productive stands of timber back to these lands that have been heavily burned.

Meanwhile the company is continuing its plans for broad fire protection over the entire Dare County area, which has been the No. 1 item on its program since it acquired the Dare County lands a year ago. Work on the drainage project is progressing with the construction of the road south of the East Lake highway. This will make a greater portion of the property accessible for reforestation activities. Additional improvement in the radio system is planned by the company which will enable two-way communications between plane and ground crews. This will give further effectiveness to fire fighting methods.

Plans are to erect an additional fire tower on the southern part of the mainland to aid in detection of fires. With the erection of this tower, fire control efforts throughout the mainland will be greatly improved. See STEPS, Page Eight

EDWIN V. MIDGETT NOW ON C.G. RETIRED LIST

A Coast Guard chief petty officer from Dare Co. was handed retirement papers by Capt. Searcy J. Lowrey, USCG, captain of the port of Norfolk.

Chief Boatswain's Mate Edwin V. Midgett agrees that to "just take it easy for awhile" is his first retirement objective. Mr. Midgett, 49, was born in Manns Harbor, and at retirement time was executive officer of the Coast Guard's Norfolk-based harbor tug Mohican. He is the son of Mrs. Minnie Midgett and the late P. Dameron Midgett of Manteo.

Midgett entered the Coast Guard in 1927, and before World War II served at lifeboat stations at Cape Fear, Wash Woods, N. C., and False Cape, Va., and Virginia Beach, Cape Henry and Little Creek, Va.

When the war broke out he was stationed aboard the Coast Guard-manned attack transport USS Manny based at Norfolk, but soon sailed for the Pacific where he won battle stars for participation in the invasion of Tulagi, Cape Esperance and Lunga Point in the Guadalcanal islands.

In 1943 he left the Manley and returned to the States where he took up duties at Wash Woods lifeboat station. A year later he was assigned to the Captain of the Port of Baltimore, and in 1945 was given charge of the sub-chaser 1016 operating out of Little Creek and Norfolk.

After a stretch of duty at Mathias Point, Va., light station, he went aboard the tug Mohican in 1948 as executive officer and has remained aboard up to retirement time.

ROSCOE C. JONES, FORMER OFFICIAL OF DARE, PASSES

Had Been Postmaster, Registrar of Deeds and Political Leader in County

Roscoe Conklin Jones, 68, former Manteo Postmaster and Dare County Registrar of Deeds died Monday morning at seven o'clock in a Norfolk hospital, after a long illness. He was the husband of Mrs. Essie Mann Jones, and the son of the late Asa Warren and Martha Creaf Jones.

Back in the days before Dare county annexed Atlantic Township Mr. Jones was a prominent political figure in Dare county, serving as Registrar of Deeds. He also served as postmaster in Manteo through the administrations of Harding, Coolidge and Hoover.

He was born at East Lake, N. C. He was a member of the Mount Olivet Methodist Church, Manteo, and Junior Order United American Mechanics.

He is survived by his wife, Essie Mann Jones of Manteo, two daughters, Mrs. E. M. Etheridge and Mrs. John Allen of Manteo; two sons, Ray U. Jones and C. Sherwood Jones of Manteo; four sisters, Mrs. John Ferebee and Miss Callie Jones of Manteo; Mrs. Annie Willis of Farmville and Mrs. Nan Northam if Norfolk; two brothers, Onslow J. Jones and Claude C. Jones of Manteo; six grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock in Mt. Olivet Methodist Church at Manteo. Rev. C. W. Cuthrie officiated. Burial was in the Manteo cemetery.

WANDERING WOMAN WITH DOGS HEAD FROM IN TENNESSEE

Presumed to Be Pursuing Vague Search for Son Left "Somewhere" as Child

Nags Head — A sequel to the adventures of "the woman with the dogs," whose travels recently intrigued the beach, may soon be forthcoming.

Mrs. Nellie Myrtle Pridgen, who befriended Mrs. John Davies a few months ago when she passed this way with three big dogs and a puppy in a vague search for a son she had left years before, recently received a card from Anna Ray Keatts of Dover, Tenn., who wrote:

"A woman with three dogs left this card here. I figured you gave it to her to hear from her. She spent the night here and headed for Memphis, Tenn. You write me and I'll tell you more about it."

When she came this way, Mrs. Davies identified herself as a former circus and carnival employee who in more recent years had been living in Florida. She told that when her son was about 2 or 3 years old she had left him with his uncle and had since lost all track of him, but she thought the house was in this general vicinity. Later she was heard from in Virginia Beach, and rumors have floated back about her wanderings.

Mrs. Pridgen said she intended to write to the Tennessee address to get more information. The card was one of several Mrs. Pridgen addressed to herself and gave Mrs. Davies.

TWO YOUTHS HURT ON ROAD NEAR BELHAVEN

Harold White, Jr., was treated in Pungo District Hospital in Belhaven for cuts and bruises and Walton Burgess, Jr., hurt a knee, when a car the latter youth was driving turned over on the highway between Pantego and Belhaven. Young White, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold White of Belhaven, sustained head injuries, including a fracture or concussion and a cut artery. The boys, who are cousins, returned to school Tuesday.

According to accounts of the accident, which occurred Sunday night, another automobile pulled out of a side road onto Highway 264, so near ahead of the two youths that in trying to avoid hitting it and two people walking along the highway young Burgess lost control of the car and it turned over. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. Walton Burgess.

Both boys are related to Mrs. Frank Cahoon, Mrs. L. D. Tarkington, Frank White and Mrs. Gus Etheridge of Manteo.

MANY THOUSANDS TO ATTEND CONVENTIONS AT NAGS HEAD HOTELS DURING THE SUMMER

Greatly Increased New Tremendous Growth on Dare Beaches Attracts Large Groups From Many States for Annual Outings

MANTEO PTA NETS LARGE SUM FROM ITS BABY CONTEST

Susan Oneto and Timmy Cochran Queen and King of Baby Week

Timmy Cochran of Manteo and Susan Oneto of Nags Head were crowned King and Queen of Baby Week last Thursday evening at a program in the Manteo school auditorium, climaxing the P. T. A. baby contest which had been underway for several weeks. Timmy, the son of Mrs. Marian Cochran of Manteo, totaled a score of 4694 votes. He was sponsored by the Midway Garage. Susan, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Julian Oneto of Nags Head, totaled 4183 votes. She was sponsored by the Carolinian Hotel. Archie Douglas Burrus held second place and Ted Midgett third place for the boys. Young Burrus, son of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Burrus of Manteo, and sponsored by Archie Burrus Grocery, scored 3772 votes. Midgett, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sam Midgett of Manteo, was sponsored by Parker's Hotel, and ended with 3438 votes. Second place for the girls went to Annie Mae Baum, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Billy Baum of Wanchese, sponsored by H. L. Davis. She had 2183 votes. Girls' third place was held by Patricia Delroy (Di) Burrus, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Belton Burrus of Manteo, who had 1774 votes. She was sponsored by Midway Garage.

First place winners were presented with loving cups, donated by Miss Bessie Draper of Manteo. Second place winners each received a sterling silver fork and spoon set, given by Louis Selig of Elizabeth City. Third place prizes were a silver fork and spoon set for the boy and a silver bracelet for the girl. These were given by Mrs. Raymond Wescott of Manteo and Mrs. Julian Oneto of Nags Head.

Other scores in the contest were as follows: Annette Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Brantley Brown of Manteo, sponsored by Dare County Ice and Storage Co., 977; Lester Lee Creef, son of Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Creef, sponsored by Wilbur Daniels of Wanchese, 860; David Allen Creef, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Creef of Manteo, sponsored by the Pioneer Theatre, 479; Ella Creef Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Vernon Davis of Manteo, sponsored by Carson W. Davis, 1136; Jevan Davis, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Davis Jr., of Manteo, sponsored by Quinn Furniture Co., 209; Celia Evans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Evans of Manteo, sponsored by the Beauty Nook, 1357; Dawn Evans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Burwell Evans of Manteo, sponsored by the Bank of Manteo, 38; Martha Lyn Evans, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Burwell Evans, sponsored by Dare Hardware Co., 191; Roxie Farrow, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Farrow, sponsored by Allen Lee Mann, 904; Dean Fearing, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. K. Fearing, Jr., of Manteo sponsored by Fearing's, Inc., 1008; Glenda Gaskill, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Gaskill, sponsored by Manteo Service Station, 770; Dearlane Gaskins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Davis Gaskins, sponsored by Mack's Place, 660; Carleen Holt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rubin Holt, sponsored by R. D. Sawyer Motor Co., 556; Ellsworth Midgett III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Midgett, Jr., of Manteo, sponsored by Kellogg Supply Co., 268; Christine Midgett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Midgett, Jr., sponsored by Hassell and Creef, 370; Michael Midgett, son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer V. Midgett of Manteo, sponsored by Midgett and Midgett, 941; Susan Meekins, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Francis W. Meekins of Manteo, sponsored by Times Printing Co., 728; Karen Scarborough, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Scarborough of Manteo, sponsored by Times Printing Co., 728.

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OCRACOKE REA HOLD ANNUAL MEETING

Ocracoke. — Members of the Ocracoke R. E. A. held their annual meeting on Monday night. President Elmo Fulcher presided. Election of officers for 1953-54 resulted in his re-election and in the election of Eph Esham for vice-president. C. F. Boyette continues as secretary-treasurer.

New members to the Board of Management were W. T. Boos, Marvin W. Howard, Ansley O'Neal, Harry O'Neal, William R. Spencer, and Eph Esham; continuing members are Junius Austin, C. F. Boyette, Elmo Fulcher, Hiatus O'Neal, and Howard R. O'Neal.

A representative, William R. Shterzer, of the R. E. A. spoke briefly on the Capital Credits Plan, which the Corporation voted to adopt as part of the By-Laws.

Sid Tolson, manager of the Plant, read the financial report, which showed everything in good condition.

Following its custom, the Corporation sponsored a free movie after the annual meeting, which was much enjoyed. Title of the picture was "I'd Climb the Highest Mountain," starring Susan Hayward and William Lundigan.

By AYCOCK BROWN
Many thousands of persons will attend conventions slated for the Nags Head area during the current year, and some of the groups will be arriving this month, at the beginning of the greatest season ever known on the Dare Beaches.

Largest of the gatherings will be the 1953 encampment of the N. C. department of Veterans of Foreign Wars. A minimum of 2,500 delegates will be present but Earl Knauf of Jacksonville, convention chairman and housing secretary, has estimated that up to 5,000 persons are likely to be present. That would make it the largest convention ever held at Nags Head and heretofore could not adequately be handled here. Scores of new motor and cottage courts, plus the addition of rooms at many of the hotels, now enable Nags Head to make bids for large conventions. Earl Knauf will set up VFW Housing Offices at The Nags Header Hotel, headquarters of the June meeting, the fourth of June, and continuing for four days.

The Southern Pulpwood Conservation Association, with H. J. Maisberger of Atlanta as chairman will convene at The Carolinian on May 19-21. Memorial Day week end will see the return of members of Pittsburgh Aero Club which fly to Nags Head for a meeting each year at The Carolinian. The planes, a score or more, will use facilities of Manteo Municipal Airport with its modern series of paved runways.

Mrs. Lucille Purser of The Carolinian said other conventions scheduled at this hotel during the season included the REA Office Managers-Accountants led by William W. Bulluck of Belhaven; the N. C. Association of Broadcasters headed by Pat Patterson of Washington, on June 18-20 and the N. C. Association of Concrete Masonry Association with H. J. Stockard, Raleigh as leader on June 26-28. On July 3-5 C. H. Parker, Belcross, brings his Jester's Club to The Carolinian for their annual meeting with the Albemarle Electric Membership of REA, led by J. D. Coston, Hertford, scheduled to convene on August 18-20. Second largest convention of 1953 scheduled for Nags Head is the N. C. Public Health Association, with Walter Lackey as district chairman in charge of arrangements. This group will convene for four days beginning September 9.

Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Hayman, operators of The Arlington Hotel have announced that the officers of the Washington D. C. Junior Chamber of Commerce would meet for their annual Nags Head outing this week. See CONVENTION, Page Eight