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BUXTON MAN'S MURDERERS GET PRISON TERMS

Slayers of Ross Midgett Tried
in New Jersey Last
Week

The slayers of Ross E. Midgett, young Buxton man in New Jersey on August 30, were tried last week in Morristown, and four of them drew prison sentences ranging from ten years downward.

Thirteen youths were involved in the slaying in "Lovers Lane" in Denville. One got seven to ten years, four drew suspended sentences in Superior court and were placed on probation. The other eight, all juveniles—were to be dealt with by juvenile authorities.

George Compo, 22, of Denville, whom police tabbed as the ring-leader, drew the lone prison sentence imposed by Judge Donald Waesche in the case.

Compo was sentenced on a plea of no defense to second degree murder on Nov. 9. He could have received up to 30 years in prison. He will serve his jail term in Bordentown Reformatory.

Those receiving suspended sentences were Richard Mitchell, 16, Denville; Jerre Hinkle, 20, Morris Plains; Edward Dresh, 19, Denville; and Phillip Kennybrook, 17, of Denville.

Mitchell, Hinkle and Dresh had pleaded guilty to manslaughter. The first two were placed on probation for five years, Dresh, for four years.

Kennybrook pleaded guilty to conspiracy to commit atrocious assault and battery and was placed on probation for five years.

The four—like Compo—originally entered mandatory pleas of innocent to first degree murder but were permitted to plead to lesser charges.

Midgett, 32, member of a prominent North Carolina family, was in the pre-dawn hours of Nov. 1 in a lover's lane in near-ville. He was beaten with a bottle, police said, in a scheme that involved morals and robbery.

SCOUT FUNDS TO REACH GOAL OF OVER \$7,000

Julian Oneto Raises \$643.31 in
Dare County; Campaign Closes
End of This Week

Roland T. Orr, Boy Scout finance chairman for the Albemarle District, announced following a report meeting this week (Monday night, Nov. 23, that the District goal of \$7,000 is in sight. \$6,300 has been turned in to the finance secretary, Mrs. Sanford P. Aydtlett. There are several large pledges to be turned in this week which will push the drive over the top.

The amounts contributed by the various counties and communities are as follows: Camden County, Chairman H. Clay Ferebee, \$188; Currituck County, Chairman Samuel Walker, \$200; Dare County, Chairman Julian Oneto, \$643.31; Pasquotank County, Chairman Charles Vann, \$35; Elizabeth City, Chairman Holland Webster, \$3,800; Chowan County, Chairman Charles Overman, \$50; Edenton, Chairman Gerald James, \$940; Gates County, Chairman C. V. Cross, Jr., \$130; Perquimans County, Archie Lane, \$48; and Hertford, Chairman John Biggers, \$300.

Mr. Orr stated that he hoped campaigners would turn in all contributions by the end of the week so that the campaign may be officially closed.

All funds are being deposited in an Elizabeth City bank for 1954 operating expenses.

DAVID MIDGETT OF WAVES ENLISTS IN COAST GUARD

Cape May, N. J. — David Midgett, 18, seaman recruit, USCG, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Midgett of Waves, North Carolina is scheduled to complete the 12-week course of recruit training at the U. S. Coast Guard Receiving Center in Cape May, N.J., early next week. The course schedules the basic duties encountered as a member of the nation's oldest seagoing force.

Seaman Recruit Midgett graduated fifth the class of 1953 from Cape Hatteras high school, where he was active in basketball, softball and the 4-H Club. Midgett joined the Coast Guard on August 31, 1953, and is now undergoing training with Recruit company E-19.

MAKING PANTEGO GREAT PORK CENTER



NOBODY EVER GOT AHEAD WORKING ONLY EIGHT HOURS A DAY. That's a sign that Scott and Miriam Topping might well nail over the door of their Pantego pork plant. Read about them elsewhere in this paper. Maybe someday they will be as famous as Kingan's in Kansas City. We hope so. (Daily News photo.)

MILLION DOLLAR BUSINESS BUILT UP IN 15 YEARS

The Toppings of Pantego Began Small But Worked
Hard in Sausage
Business

Toppings Country Sausage! It's a name that has gone a long way during the past 15 years. It has given the Beaufort County village of Pantego a million dollar industry, and it has become a monument to an unbeatable man and wife team who didn't stop work when they were tired, and the going was rough.

Scott and Miriam Topping haven't long been in their new quarters where they can now dress out as many as 300 hogs a day, if they want to. It's a plant that you might not easily duplicate for less than \$80,000. And it's a long way from the sausage business Scott Topping started on a kitchen stove, back in 1939 when folks hereabout hadn't quite recovered from the depression. Those were the days when Scott had to really worry about where he could find \$100 to expand his business.

The other day he counted up and found out where he was paying out a thousand dollars a week for labor, and that he will pay this year to the farmers of the area, better than a million, one hundred thousand dollars for hogs.

The fame of Topping's country sausage has spread across the nation. Letters come from many distant places, demanding Topping's sausage meat by mail. Recently a long distance phone call came from Washington, D. C. "I want you to send me some of your sausage meat," the caller said. "I went down to Hyde County, and Mrs. Watson served me some of it at Engelhard Hotel. She told me where she got it from."

Now there are always folks who sit and wish for a business of their own. Many of them will never have one, and some of them will believe to the end of their days they never had a chance in life. Of course there are people who wish for something full blown, turned over into their hands. And there are folks who look with disfavor on those who have succeeded.

Doubtless Scott Topping would tell you, when he got in the sausage business, he had no idea of anything except trying to figure out a way for the time being to feed himself and wife, and the babies that were coming along. Anyway, he used to buy two hogs a week, and make them up into sausage in his sister's kitchen, and he had the good luck to get hold of a super-saleswoman, Mrs. Louise Ricks, to introduce Topping's country sausage from house to house in Belhaven and Pantego. That's how Topping's country sausage got started on its way, until it is now sold in volume everywhere in eastern North Carolina and four salesmen on See TOPPING, Page Eight

MANTEO BANK ISSUES \$18,000 FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas Club Members Deposit
\$2,000 More in Past Year
Than Previous One

The Bank of Manteo last week paid out around \$18,000 to depositor's in the Christmas savings club. The club seems to grow each year, as year before last only \$14,000 was on deposit at payout time. Last year's club paid out \$16,000.

Money received through the club seems to come in handy for everyone this time of year, not only for gift buying, but for such other purposes as paying taxes. One important point of the club is not being able to withdraw the money, therefore it is left until around the middle of November, when all the checks are sent out.

The bank's 1954 club will begin Monday, December 7.

FORMER HATTERAS MAN IN ACCOUNTING FIRM

Corlett W. Burrus, son of E. E. Burrus, well-known Hatteras man, and formerly associated in business with his father in Hatteras, is now associated in the new certified public accounting firm of COOTES and BURRUS of 431 Granby St. Norfolk. Mr. Burrus has resided in Norfolk for several years. He is one of the most highly regarded young men from Dare County.

WILLIAM HOWARD BARNES BURIED AT SALVO TUESDAY

Funeral services for William Howard Barnes, 81, who died Monday morning at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Charlie Whidbee of Manteo, were conducted at 10:30 o'clock Tuesday morning at the Twiford Funeral Home chapel by the Rev. H. R. Ashmore, pastor of Mt. Olivet Methodist Church, and the Rev. P. M. Porter, pastor of Salvo Methodist Church. Burial was in the family plot at Salvo. Mr. Barnes was a native of Salvo, Dare County, the son of Mr. and Mrs. John Barnes, a member of Salvo Methodist Church and a retired carpenter. Surviving besides Mrs. Whidbee, his daughter at Manteo, are five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Naomi Wescott sang "Safe in the Arms of Jesus" accompanied on the organ by Mrs. Rennie Williamson, at Manteo. The casket was covered with a pall of red roses.

At Salvo the church choir sang "Nearer My God To Thee." Myron V. Midgett, William J. Duchanan, William J. Batts, Jimmie A. Gratton, James A. Jacobson and Curtis E. Scarborough served as pallbearers.

Some years ago, he cooked for the boys at Gull Shoal Coast Guard Station. He was always a popular figure in the community, and he has lived in Manteo for several years and made many new friends. The old homestead he had at Salvo he sold to Capt. Steve Basnight of Manteo.

PAVED HIGHWAY, SEASHORE PARK "BANKS" BOOMING

New Motel and Cottage Facilities Under Construction on Hatteras Island

By AYCOCK BROWN

Buxton. — A building boom, the likes of which have been visualized by only a few people, for Hatteras Island along the Outer Banks is now underway. Responsible for it all, as any of the builders might tell you, has been a new all-paved state highway between Nags Head and Hatteras, and the fact that Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational area, is being established in the area, and has given the region additional publicity.

At Buxton, cottage court owners who experienced business far above expectations during the 1953 season are expanding their facilities to take care of anticipated business in 1954. George Fuller and associates are enlarging an eight unit cottage court filled to capacity during the past six months. Three-apartment units, and four efficiency apartments are being added to Cape Hatteras Cottage Court. Edgar Hooper is building four additional units. Mr. and Mrs. E. P. White plan a four unit motor court shortly on the ocean beach near Cape Hatteras Lighthouse.

R. D. Owens of Nags Head is constructing a 10-unit modern motor court between Rodanthe and Waves, where local interests have built several smaller tourist places during the current year. The court Mr. Owens expects to complete by March 1954, will also have restaurant facilities. The expected cost of his court will be approximately \$50,000.

Other new places constructed during the past year include Orange Blossom Inn, and Light-house View, Cape Hatteras Cottage Court and Cape Point Restaurant. Several local homes have been converted into guest houses.

National Park Service officials have announced that the former residence of Cape Lighthouse keepers' quarters is being converted into a building that will house a maritime museum of the area. It will be under the supervision of Park Service rangers, several of whom have already been transferred to the area.

New building at Hatteras is also planned for the 1954 season. "Scotty" Gibson of Atlantic View Hotel has added additional rooms and a modern restaurant to his facilities during the past year. Andrew Austin owner of Durants Motor Court and apartments has also increased his facilities. A new large building serving as an appliance store with several apartments on the second floor, is owned by Shanklin Austin. A modern storage, tackle and bait shop catering to anglers and vacationists has been completed and operated by Willie Newsome during the current year.

The Outer Banks region has experienced its best travel year and the season is still underway here with just about all accommodations taken by anglers coming to the area to fish for channel bass and other species.

So great has been the tourist travel to the area this year that plans are already under way to have additional ferry service at Oregon Inlet during the season of 1954, it was stated by highway officials.

WILLIS E. LEIGH OF KRAMER BROS. DIES

Well known throughout the Coastland was Willis E. Leigh, an official of the Millwork firm of Kramer Bros. Co., who died Sunday at 6 p. m. at his home in Elizabeth City. He was buried Tuesday in Hollywood cemetery.

Mr. Leigh was a native of Tyrrell County, the son of the late Samuel E. and Ellen Brickhouse Leigh, and the husband of Mrs. Marguerite LeRoy Leigh. He had one brother and two sisters and was a member of the First Baptist Church.

AMERICAN LEGION TO MEET MONDAY NIGHT

The Fort Raleigh Post of the American Legion will meet Monday night, November 30, in the Wanchese school building at seven o'clock, according to announcement by Post Commander James W. Davis, who urges that all members attend.

WANCHESE MAN DIST. GOVERNOR RURITAN CLUBS

James W. Davis Advanced to
Head of Albemarle
District

For his vigorous work in behalf of Ruritan while Lieutenant Governor last year, James W. Davis of Wanchese was advanced to the Prsident of Albemarle Ruritan District in Hertford Friday night at the district convention.

Mr. Davis, a retired Coast Guard officer, was active during his term in the organization of clubs at Hatteras and Avon, and in re-activating the Poplar Branch Club. He is a charter member and former Secretary-Treasurer of the Wanchese Club.

Mr. Davis spoke briefly at the Hertford meeting, pledging his best efforts in the new office during the coming year.

PTA WILL SPONSOR GRASS ROOTS OPERA

Bonnybel Evans Picture to Be
Hung in Primary Building

The November meeting of the Manteo Parent Teacher Association was held Monday night in the school auditorium, Mrs. Lawrence Swain presiding. Mrs. G. G. Bonner led the devotional, using a Thanksgiving theme.

A report from the treasurer showed a net of \$270.70 from the Hallowe'en carnival.

It was voted to sponsor again this year the appearance of the Grass Roots Opera Company, the opera "Carmen" being preferred at this time.

Two pictures have been acquired for the school, one for grades 1-4, the other for grades 5-12, these to be used as parent attendance prizes. Mrs. Swain reported that the picture of Miss Bonnybel Evans has arrived and will be hung in the Bonnybel Evans primary school building as soon as it is framed.

A microscope for the science laboratory and a duplicating machine for the commercial department are to be bought for the school, this being voted on after hearing from Mrs. W. S. Meekins of the science department and Mrs. James of the commercial department of the pressing need for these items.

Mrs. John Earle, chairman of the program on "Better Homes Make Better Schools", presented Mrs. D. E. Evans, county superintendent, who made an interesting talk on "An Ideal School"; and Mrs. Van Ness Harwood, who spoke on "Reading to Broaden One's Knowledge". Mrs. Harwood urged everyone to take advantage of the wide selection of books available in the Dare County library.

During the social hour the hostesses, Mrs. Charles Marshall and Mrs. Vernon Davis, served refreshments.

A 61-POUND BASS CAUGHT AT OCRACOKE

Ocracoke. — A sixty-one pound channel bass was caught in Ocracoke Inlet on Thursday, November 12th, by Ernest M. Jordan of Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Mr. Jordan was fishing from the Boat Greg with Capt. Stacy Howard and Capt. Maltby Bragg. He used a Penn Squidder Reel, Montague Glass Rod, 48 lb. test Weston Hotstretch line. This is Mr. Jordan's fifth year of fall fishing at Ocracoke. He and Mrs. Jordan stayed for a week at the Wabab Village Hotel and it was during his last day of fishing that he made the prize catch. He planned to enter it in the Field & Stream contest. He took several pictures of the drum before he and Mrs. Jordan left on Friday for New York.

MANN'S HARBOR CLUB PLANS PRIZE NIGHT

Ways and Means Chairman, Mary Agnes Haywood of the Manns Harbor Youth Club, states that plans are under way for a "Grand Prize Night" to be staged at the Community Building, Tuesday, December 15. Prizes are to be solicited from the local business places and tickets will be on sale by the club members within a few days. The winner of the turkey on "Guess the Pumpkin Seed" contest will be announced the same night. Proceeds of this event will go toward completion of the Community Building Project, which the club has undertaken for the current year.

PROGRESS RAPID NOW ON 50TH FLIGHT CELEBRATION IN DARE, DECEMBER 14-17

Replicas of Buildings Used by Wright Brothers in 1903 Under Construction at Kill Devil Hills; Scene Will Look Like The Memorable Day 50 Years Ago.

By AYCOCK BROWN

With four sponsoring groups co-operating to make it the biggest celebration of its kind ever held anywhere, the plans for the golden anniversary of powered flight here at Kill Devil Hills and Kitty Hawk on December 14-17 are well underway. The sponsoring agencies and their leaders include Kill Devil Hills Memorial Society of which General Frank P. Lahm is president and Miles L. Clark chairman of board of directors; the Air Force Association, headed by George C. Kennedy with Ralph V. Whitener as program director; National Park Service, directed by Conrad L. Wirth with Horace Dough as local superintendent of the Wright Memorial area here and the North Carolina 50th Anniversary Commission headed by Governor William B. Umstead with Carl Goerch as chairman.

"The four day celebration at Kill Devil Hills will salute all phases of aviation," said General Lahm. "Monday, December 14, will be private flyers and pioneer day. On Tuesday we will honor the aviation industry, the manufacturers, suppliers and the airlines. Wednesday will be defense day and Thursday, December 17, will be Golden Anniversary Day."

General Lahm, (U. S. Army retired brigadier general) was a close friend of the Wright Brothers and was taught to fly by them.

Whitener for the Air Force Association has announced that there will be aerial demonstrations and ground exhibits on each of the four days.

"We will reenact the first flight on December 17, at the same hour and over the same course as it was done in 1903," said Whitener.

Governor William B. Umstead assured representatives of the sponsoring celebration agencies that North Carolina would give every support possible to make the observance the most outstanding of its kind held anywhere.

Carl Goerch, chairman of the Governors 50th Anniversary Flight Commission announced that top-ranking state and national officials would be present for the celebration.

Julian Oneto, of the Nags Head Chamber of Commerce has announced that his organization will be responsible for housing visitors to the celebration.

Mrs. Lucille Purser and Oneto of The Carolinian are chairmen of the dinners, while local invitations to same will be handled by committees headed by Mayor Martin Kellogg, Jr., of Manteo and C. of C. Manager Forrest Jones of Elizabeth City. Lunches are planned for each of the four days with notable speakers on the program.

Co-Chairman of the publicity and press facilities are Aycock Brown of Dare County Tourist Bureau and A. W. Drinkwater of Manteo, the retired telegrapher who in 1908 handled more than 40,000 words of press copy for newsmen covering the Wrights' experimental flights at Kill Devil Hills that year.

Arrangements for concessions at the site of the celebration at Kill Devil Hills are to be under the supervision of Horace Dough superintendent of the National Memorial area.

The Civil Aeronautics Administration will install an operations set-up at nearby Manteo airport to handle the great number of visitors who will come to the area by air and already arrangements have been made for transporting these visitors from the airport to the site of the celebration here, at Kitty Hawk and in Nags Head.

Battlefield equipment herved a peaceful purpose this week at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, birth place of powered flight. Dr. J. C. Harrington and Frank Barnes, Regional Archaeologist and Regional Historian, respectively, of the Department of Interior's National Park Service, used a mine detector to locate the exact spot on which Orville and Wilbur Wright had built two

See CELEBRATION, Page Four

CURRITUCK MAN LOST OVERBOARD ON THANKSGIVING

Robert Cahoon, Harbinger
Contractor, Disappears
While Out Hunting

Robert Cahoon, 35, of Harbinger, apparently drowned in Currituck Sound shortly after 1 o'clock Thursday afternoon and the body had not been recovered late Friday morning.

Cahoon, Bobby Cahoon, 14, his son, and Melvin Matthews, his brother-in-law, started out early Thursday morning to hunt ducks. Cahoon left the others at the blind and went out in his outboard motor boat.

Thursday afternoon, Wallace O'Neal of Aydtlett saw a motor boat with the engine still running. The boat was turning round and round in the water. O'Neal and his son went to the empty boat and managed to take it in tow. The boat was later identified as that Cahoon had been using.

A search for the body in the seven-foot water was begun immediately. Dragging operations and a helicopter search failed to produce the body at sundown. The search was resumed Friday morning.

Cahoon, a native of Virginia, had spent the past 20 years in Currituck. He spent his early life in Tyrrell County. He was the son of R. Vance and Mae Spencer Cahoon of Currituck County. He was the husband of Mrs. Erma Cahoon, a member of Gum Neck Christian Church and Coinjock Masonic Lodge. He was a member of the firm of R. V. Cahoon and Son, building contractors at Harbinger.

Surviving besides his wife, parents and Bobby is another son, Johnny one brother, Dennis in See CAHOON, Page Four

SPECIAL AIR MAIL FLIGHTS DEC. 14-17

Jet Planes To Fly Mail to Kitty
Hawk and Kill Devil Hills
from Dayton

Jet planes will fly special air-mail cachets to Kitty Hawk on each of the four-days of the Golden Anniversary of Powered Flight celebration at Kitty Hawk and Kill Devil Hills on December 14-17, it is announced in Washington by Ralph Whitener of the Aid Force Association and national coordinator of the event commemorating the achievement of Wilbur and Orville Wright, 50 years ago.

The American Air Mail Society is sponsoring the cachets as collectors' items.

An Air Force jet fighter plane will carry the cachets on opening day of the celebration, Monday, December 14, from Dayton Ohio, home of the Wrights to Kitty Hawk, the birthplace of powered flight. The flight will be made in little more than one hour as compared to the four days it took the Wright Brothers to travel the same distance from Dayton to Kitty Hawk in 1900, the first year they arrived on this coast to begin experiments which led to powered flight in their rugged-built plane the "Kitty Hawk," in 1903.

The Dayton-Kitty Hawk cachets will be put on board the jet plane at 8 A. M., during a special ceremony arranged by the Wilbur and Orville Wright Memorial Squadron of the Air Force Association. Norman Miller, Ohio Wing Commander of the Association, at 11 West Monument Street, Dayton 2, Ohio, will handle all cachets mailed to him by philatelists who want to have their own cachets included in the flight. . . . The air forces of Canada and Great Britain have been invited to fly cachets to Kitty Hawk on two of the four days of the celebration.

Helen M. Ross, P. O. Box 149, Milburn, New Jersey, will establish the rules for collecting the cachets, and will receive and distribute the cachets at Kitty Hawk. Inquiries on cachets should be addressed to Miss Ross, it was stated.