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DARE COUNTY TO GET BIG SHARE OF PARK FUNDS

Ten Per Cent of Sums Requested Budgeted for North Carolina Projects

NPS Director Conrad Wirth told the Washington Congressional committee that plans call for expenditure of \$6,976,200 in six national parks, all or part of which are in North Carolina, out of a total budget of \$62,362,000.

Wirth told the committee the President's Budget Bureau has approved its plans to spend \$4,658,394 on the Blue Ridge Park, parts of which are in North Carolina and Virginia. The funds, if appropriated by Congress, would be broken down into \$3,839,800 for construction of parkways, \$376,704 for management and protection, and \$441,890 for maintenance and rehabilitation of existing facilities.

The NPS fiscal 1959 plans also call for expenditure of \$1,508,316 in the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.

Wirth explained that the proposed spending would include \$783,400 for roads, trails and buildings, \$322,081 for management and protection, and \$397,835 for maintenance and rehabilitation.

Other plans call for expenditure of \$501,958 in the Cape Hatteras and Ft. Raleigh National Parks, including \$271,500 in construction, \$113,658 for management and protection, and \$117,400 for maintenance and rehabilitation of existing facilities.

Wirth said the NPS also plans to spend \$230,000 at the Wright Brothers National Park for a new combination visitor center and museum to tell the story of the Wright Brothers and the beginning of the aviation industry. Funds for management and protection, \$24,680, and maintenance \$10,420 would bring the total fiscal 1959 funds to \$265,100.

Wirth said all the proposed N. C. projects are Mission 66 projects of the highest priority throughout the service. Mission 66 is a ten-year program designed to provide services in National Parks for 88 million visitors a year.

PANTHER IS REPORTED ON DARE CO. MAINLAND

Supposedly-Extinct Animal Sighted Several Times between Stumpy Point and Manns Harbor

By AYCOCK BROWN
Although the panther (cougar or puma) supposedly has long been extinct in North Carolina, there are residents of the vast forest-covered Dare mainland who will tell you that at least one of these American giants of the cat family is still on the prowl.

The latest report of a panther sighting occurred during the past week end. Frankie Hemilwright of Manns Harbor and Homer F. Fain, Springfield, Ohio, and Clarence M. Rush, Ada, Ohio, both attached to the U. S. Naval Target Station at Stumpy Point, claimed they saw the big panther on U. S. Highway 264 in the Gum Swamp sector between Manns Harbor and Stumpy Point in daylight about 3 o'clock last Saturday and again on Sunday night as they drove along the road there.

Rush described the animal as being much larger than a dog, and with very dark or black fur. (Puma or cougar are normally reddish brown but such an animal inhabiting the burned over woodlands of the great forest fire of 1957 on the Dare mainland could easily turn almost black from coming in contact with the charred remains of bushes and trees.)

Another member of the Stumpy Point Navy station, Blaine Wolf, of Dublin, Ohio, claimed that he had seen the "panther" in approximately the same locality of the sightings during the past week end while walking back to Stumpy Point, (when unable to catch a ride) from Manteo. "It was very

See PANTHER, Page Five

SCHOOLS CLOSE, FOX HUNT CONTINUES WITH SNOW

Snow which began falling before dawn Thursday morning failed to interfere with the annual Valentine Fox Hunt staged each year on the Dare Beaches by the Carolinian Hotel, although school officials decided to dismiss schools at noon and send pupils home. The sudden snow found the ground dry, and the resulting layer of white was the heaviest seen this year.

The hunters and hounds began arriving at the Carolinian Wednesday for the three-day fox hunt which got underway about 7 a.m. in the Bodie Island sector. Numerous contests and other forms of entertainment are planned during the course of the hunt, which will conclude with a dance Saturday night.

OPERATOR LICENSE CHARGES AGAINST MANY NEXT WEEK

This Week's Court Heard Robbery, Fighting and Reckless Driving Cases

The Feb. 18th term of Dare Recorder's Court will have a number of unusual cases. Several young men from Hatteras Island, drivers of trucks of 25,000 lb. capacity have been summoned to court by highway patrolmen for driving without the proper license to qualify them for such use of the roads. They are employed by a road contractor.

In Recorder's Court this week Robert Sanderlin, a young white boy, was bound over to Superior Court after he had pleaded guilty to entering the stores of Carson Davis, Glenn Bonner, and the taxicab driven by Harry Hayman on Feb. 7th, Jon Arthur Williams, of Wanchese, ex-convict, who was arraigned in connection with these thefts, pleaded not guilty and his case has been continued for two weeks.

W. W. Baum of Kitty Hawk was fined \$25 and costs for driving without an operator's license. He also was fined \$5 and costs on a charge dating from November in which he was arrested for driving a car on the road with cardboard in the windows instead of glass.

J. H. Bray, a soldier stationed at Nags Head, was fined \$25 and costs for allowing an unlicensed person to drive his car. L. L. Midgett of Manns Harbor paid \$25 and costs for careless and reckless driving. F. D. Hemilwright of Manns Harbor \$5 and costs for failing to report an accident. Jethro Payne, Jr. of Wanchese was fined \$25 and costs for public drunkenness.

Mrs. Eloise Cartwright was complaining witness against several young men whom she alleged had beat and cut her son Luther Warren, resulting in injury. Tommy O'Neal and Larry Sanderlin, being under 16 were remanded to the Juvenile Court, but Marshall Sanderlin, Roger Milhovich, Ray Cartwright and Raymond Cartwright were found guilty, and ordered by Judge Baum to attend a church service eight weeks in succession, and to share the court costs. Tommie O'Neal claimed the Warren boy had assaulted him, and Warren was sentenced to church also.

CHINESE GIRL STUDENT SPEAKS TO ROTARIANS LADIES NIGHT MONDAY

Miss Ly Yeen Ai, a Chinese Rotary Exchange student whose home is now in Phnom-Penh, Cambodia, Indo-China, and whose Americanized name is Jenny Lee, was guest speaker at the annual Rotary Ladies Night program of the Manteo Rotary Club, at the Carolinian Hotel on Nags Head Monday evening.

Although she had learned to read English in her native land, her knowledge of speaking the language has been only during the past five months while studying at Atlantic Christian College in Wilson. She amazed and pleased her listeners as she told of life in far-away Cambodia, where living standards are far below those of America.

Under French rule for many years, Cambodia is now an independent nation, struggling for existence and staging a fight against Communism, she stated.

While she herself is a Christian, the majority of Cambodia residents are Buddhists.

She told of her studies at Atlantic Christian College and of her desire to become a nurse, for which there is a great need in Cambodia.

Following her fluent, though broken-English talk she answered many questions of Rotarians and guests present.

Ernest E. Meekins, club president presided at the meeting and Rotarian Wallace McCown introduced the speaker of the evening. The widely acclaimed Manteo Rotary Quartet under the direction of Dick Jordan provided music and led the singing of Rotary songs.

The Rotary Anns present each received a red carnation and an unusual piece of Rotary Ann Ruby Smith's Outer Banks ceramics as favors at the conclusion of the program.

KITTY HAWK WSCS DINNER

The Women's Society of Christian Service of the Kitty Hawk Methodist Church will sponsor a turkey dinner Saturday, February 22, at the Kitty Hawk school lunch room and they are serving from 5:00 to 7:30. They will also prepare plates to be taken but. The tickets are \$1.00 per plate and the proceeds go to the building fund. A door prize will be awarded.

METHODIST BISHOP TO SPEAK IN HERTFORD



BISHOP PAUL N. GARBER

Bishop Paul N. Garber, resident bishop of the Richmond area, and Dr. Olin Hunt, of the Board of Missions and Church Extension of the Methodist Church will be featured speakers at the annual Elizabeth City District Laymen's Rally, Friday, February 21, in Perquimans County High School, Hertford, beginning with supper, in the school cafeteria from five until seven o'clock in the evening. The platform hour will follow at 7:30 in the High School auditorium.

Fred Ritter of Ahoskie, District Lay Leader, is in charge of the rally, planned for all laymen and their pastors in the Elizabeth City District to meet together in one mass meeting to encourage the work of the men in the local churches. Serving with Ritter as associate lay leaders are: Curtis V. Powell, Corapeake; C. S. Meekins, Manteo; A. M. Sparrow, Ransomville; Gerald D. James, Edenton; John Henry Singleton, Washington.

J. Nelson Gibson of Gibson, conference lay leader, will be present, and will present the speakers of the evening. According to District Superintendent C. Freeman Heath, there are 36 charges and 86 churches within the boundaries of the District, and each church is planning to send a good representation. Rev. James A. Auman is host pastor and D. Talmadge Rose, Jr. is lay leader of the host church.

DR. N. H. SHOPE TO BE SCOUT BANQUET SPEAKER

Dr. Nathaniel H. Shope, superintendent of Elizabeth City schools, has been announced as the speaker for the first annual Scout banquet to be held in Manteo this Saturday evening in observance of the 48th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. The advance sale of tickets points to a large attendance of Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, parents, and Scout leaders, according to Scoutmaster J. D. Earle and Cubmaster Gus Hultman, who have announced that no tickets will be sold at the door.

The evening's program will include skits by each Cub den and the Scout troop. The banquet is to be held at the Mt. Olivet Methodist Church beginning at 6:30 p.m.

UNCLE WILLIE FROM WANCHESE WRITES:

DEAR MISTER EDITOR:

"Well, from what I read in the papers this week things is moving along in this dizzy world. And it gets dizzier all the time. For instant, I see where they had a lawsuit up in Boston and the court ruled that a woman on roller skates was a vehicle. I think the judge was correct, and if she was wearing slacks I think it would be legal to hold her fer being a misguided missile. Wimmen is bad enough behind a steering wheel, but when they get on roller skates in a crowded street the only safe place fer miles around would be up on the housetop.

I wasn't surprised to see where Ingrid Bergman's marriage went on the rocks. Them kind of marriages seldom last longer than it takes a farmer to fill his hayrack with fodder.

I been aiming fer quite a spell to write a column on marriage, but my old lady has got so she looks over this paper and I didn't know if it was safe or not. She's gone to Milltail Creek to visit her sister this week and so I'm going to risk it.

As a general rule there's two sides to most all questions, and that holds good fer marriage. The side that gets disgusting is the one where these folks in the entertainment field rotate their mates like us farmers rotate our crops.

IMPROVEMENTS TO HIGHWAYS LISTED BY W. N. SPRUILL

Year's Work in Currituck, Dare, Hyde and Tyrrell Summed Up in Report

Raleigh.—During 1957, the State Highway Commission completed 446,364 miles of road improvements in the First Highway Division, W. N. Spruill, Division Engineer of Ahoskie, reported recently. Of the completed mileage, 342.82 miles were renovated by State forces while the other 103,544 miles were finished up by contract forces under the supervision of State Highway engineers.

Spruill commended the State and contractor forces upon the fine work completed last year. Highlights of the 1957 construction season include completion of grading and structures on the 2 1/2 mile long concrete bridges across Croatan Sound on US 264—64 linking Manns Harbor and Manteo; 1.2 miles of widening from 18 to 22 ft. and resurfacing on US 264 and 64 in Manns Harbor north for 1.2 miles toward the Croatan Sound Bridge; 3.15 miles of resurfacing, 20 ft. wide, from US 264 and 64 at Midway, east across Roanoke Sound to Whalebone; resurfacing from Whalebone for 8.45 miles south to Oregon Inlet; widening from 16 to 18 feet and resurfacing 3.34 miles from a point on US 158, 1.6 miles east of Currituck Sound Bridge, north toward Duck; building a new 0.112-mile long concrete bridge over Pungo River on US 264 at Leechville; grading, paving new locations, widening old 16 ft. wide concrete pavement to 22 ft. on US 264 from east end of bridge over Pungo River at Leechville southeast for 19.38 miles to about one mile northeast of Swan Quarter; 1.33 miles of widening from 16 ft. to 20 ft.-22 ft., leveling and resurfacing.

See ROADS, Page Four

MISS IRENE SHEARIN, 91, DIES AT MANTEO; WAS FIRST REGISTERED NURSE

A woman who many years ago was a registered nurse in N. C. came to Manteo several years ago, and won the hearts of the people through her goodness and graciousness. Miss Irene Ditula Shearin, 91, died Friday after a long illness at the home of a cousin, Dr. W. W. Johnston in Manteo where she had resided for 35 years. She was a native of Halifax County and the daughter of Alpheus Fox Shearin and Martha Grant Shearin. Several nieces and nephews survive her.

Upon coming to Manteo she became active in the Methodist Church, the Irene Shearin Circle was named in her honor.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday at 3 p.m. at the Mt. Olivet Methodist Church, of which she was a member, by the Rev. Louis A. Aitken, pastor, and the Rev. Frank B. Dinwiddie, pastor of the Roanoke Island Baptist Church. Burial was in the Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Manteo. The body lay in the church one hour prior to the services.

This newspaper will also give similar space to some citizen who wishes to set forth reasons why the town charter should not be retained. A similar amount of space can be filled with not more than five or six double-spaced typewritten pages. The article should be in our hands by Tuesday night to insure publication.

MRS. PARLEY MILLER, 86, DIES AT HOME IN BUXTON

A great and beloved citizen of Cape Hatteras passed away early Saturday morning. Mrs. Parley O'Neal Miller, 86, died at her residence in Buxton. She had been remarkably active until shortly before her death. She was a native and life-long resident of Buxton.

Mrs. Miller was the widow of the late David B. Miller, and the daughter of the late Ivy and Mary Farrow O'Neal. She was a member of the Buxton Methodist Church and the Women's Society. She is survived by two daughters, Mrs. James S. Turner of Buxton and Mrs. Ollie Miller O'Neil of Farmingdale, N. Y.; a son, Bateman Miller of Tuckerton, N. J.; a sister, Mrs. Fred Kelly of West Palm Beach, Fla.; 12 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted by the pastor, Rev. Ray Sparrow, at 2 p.m. Sunday in the Methodist Church, and burial was in the family plot in the Miller Cemetery. Pallbearers were Edson and Cantwell Miller, Bill Dillon, Fatio Gray, James Rollinson, and Edgar Hooper.

Yours truly
Uncle Willie Hooper.

FERRIES ESSENTIAL TO ALL SEASHORE HIGHWAY ROUTE

Discussion of Many Problems at Wilmington Meeting Last Week

By AYCOCK BROWN

Methods of obtaining ferries from Ocracoke to Cedar Island, connecting dead-end highways on the mainland and Outer Banks with U. S. 70 and the new all-paved highway extending south from the Nags Head sector to Ocracoke, and similar highways extending to Fort Fisher and Southport, were discussed at the annual meeting of the All Seashore Highway Association meeting in Wilmington during the past week end, according to Aycock Brown who attended the meeting as a representative of Dare County Tourist Bureau here.

"Such ferry services would complete the first phase of plans for an all seashore highway extending from the Virginia State Line to South Carolina and would abolish dead end highways in two heavily populated and much traveled routes," said Brown.

At the Wilmington meeting Joe DuBois of Morehead City, retiring president of the association declared that the only thing preventing ferry service between Ocracoke and Cedar Island is some shallow water and a suitable ferry landing. "We are hopeful that both the state and federal government will aid us in this undertaking," Du Bois was quoted as saying.

Glen Tucker of Carolina Beach announced at the meeting that efforts to obtain ferry service from lower New Hanover County to Southport was in an advanced planning stage.

Other reports at the meeting involved mosquito control in eastern counties by Dr. S. H. Ury, state sanitarian who explained plans for area participation and C. L. Harry Brown, representing Governor Hodges at the meeting indicated that efforts to secure federal aid in the beach erosion control program was progressing satisfactorily.

The annual meeting held at the Floating Oak Restaurant marked the annual election of officers. J. Vivian Whitfield of Pender County was elected president of the 21-coastal county group to succeed DuBois who was elected secretary. W. H. McCown of Manteo, in the All Seashore's District 1, was elected vice president and Norwood Young was elected treasurer.

THE KILL DEVIL HILLS VIEWPOINT: FOR AND AGAINST NEXT WEEK

Next week this newspaper is planning to carry an article about two columns long, giving the reasons why many citizens favor retaining the town charter in Kill Devil Hills, as being essential to the prestige, growth and progress of the community.

An election is to be held on March 25th on this issue. Two years ago such an election was held, but Attorney-General and court rulings declared the election invalid.

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FLYING IS THE BUSINESS OF THIS KITTY HAWK BOY



ERNEST PUGH Jr., a Kitty Hawk

native can look back on more than 250 flights across the Atlantic, during his nearly six years' service with Trans World Airlines. He is a flight pilot, and joined this firm in 1952, having been relief captain for the past three and a half years. Capt. Pugh, whose parents now live at Kitty Hawk, resides with his wife and two children at 610 Everdell Ave., Islip, L. I., New York. Ernie Pugh got his education at Kitty Hawk high school, N. C. State and Texas Tech. He has been laid up for a space with a broken arm and an injured leg sustained in an automobile accident, but expects to get back to flying in March. As relief captain he is flying the new international routes. His Atlantic crossings include flights to Iceland, Ireland, London, Paris, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, Israel, Lebanon, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, India, Ceylon, Spain and Portugal. He was flying regularly to Egypt until the Israel-Egypt flare-up.

Capt. Pugh was a bomber pilot instructor in World War II—he is a Captain in the Air Force reserve. Prior to joining TWA he was a test pilot with Serv-Air in Kinston. His wife is the former Ann Pritchard of Elizabeth City, and he is a grandson of Mrs. Mary Love Perry of Kitty Hawk, and a nephew of Mrs. Jack Shannon of Manteo.

TOWNSHIPS WHICH YIELD MOST TAXES IN DARE COUNTY

Nags Head and Kitty Hawk Show Highest Return; Gains Expected From Hatteras Area

The recent county audit shows the various assessments for the townships of Dare County, and Nags Head township is shown with a levy of \$84,565.55 for the year 1955. Atlantic Township's levy for the same year is shown to be \$73,460.40, Atlantic being the smaller by \$11,105.15.

Nags Head township includes only Roanoke Island and the lower part of Nags Head reaching to Bodie Island. In recent years, Colington Island and a large additional area of Nags Head township, in which lies its greatest beach wealth, was given to Kitty Hawk ostensibly for school tax purposes.

The new revaluation underway in Dare County costing \$22,000 is expected to change the tax picture, bringing to the books a great accumulation of valuation caused by the rapid development during the past three years on Hatteras Island. Taxes against the entire island in 1955 totaled \$22,598.06.

Hatteras township was charged with a total of \$14,603.07, and its three districts itemized: Frisco \$1,910.52; Hatteras, \$7,381.82 and Buxton \$5,410.73. Kennebec township's total was \$7,994.99, Avon having \$4,426.35 and the Rodanthe to Salyo area \$3,568.64. For many years these townships on Hatteras Island were allowed assessments far under the usual rate elsewhere because of the lack of roads and other advantages which weighed against the people's interests.

The tax levy against the Dare County mainland in 1955 totaled \$18,255.13. Of this total \$8,537.80 was levied against East Lake township; and \$9,717.33 against Croatan township whose three communities were taxed as follows: Manns Harbor, \$4,835.97; Mashoes, \$1,119.80 and Stumpy Point \$3,761.56. Fortunately for these communities, half the taxes were paid by owners of timber property. Fortunately also for the coastal areas, like Atlantic Township and Nags Head, some 80 per cent of the taxes were paid by the non-resident owners of beach cottages and acreage.

AUDITOR SHOWS GENERAL FUND DEFICIT \$50,882

Last Report Reveals General Fund Running Heavily Behind Two Years Ago

As predicted by this newspaper two years ago that the Dare County General fund would show a heavy deficit, if, as and when an audit should be made. The audit has finally been made without an explanation for the long delay, and the audit says the deficit in the General Fund as of June 30th had accumulated to \$50,882.77, and, in the auditor's words: "It is imperative that this deficit be eliminated and not be allowed to accumulate in the future."

The audit was made by R. O. Howard, CPA of Belhaven, N. C., and is the last form of audit made of county funds. It was delivered to the Commissioners last week. If usual practice follows, we believe a much larger deficit would be revealed, were a complete audit made for the succeeding years.

By their loose and wasteful management of county affairs, the Board of Commissioners have been allowing with their full knowledge, or if they didn't know, a costly deficit which from year to year, in spite of constantly raising taxes, appears to be constantly growing.

This audit was made prior to the large expenditure of funds for courthouse addition and a new jail, which has required an outlay of upwards of \$100,000.

The report shows a deficit in the Poor Fund of \$492.25. It shows a report in the Health Fund of expenditures in excess of Revenue of \$2,622.93. For the particular preceding year, it shows however, the Welfare Fund had receipts in excess of expenditures by \$5,582.19.

Again however, in the Debt Service fund there was a deficit of Expenditures over Revenue of \$1,609.93.

Again, errors were found in the office of Register of Deeds, the report says, and when called to the attention of that official he

See AUDIT, Page Five

BIG MULLET CATCH MADE BY STUMPY PT. FISHERMEN

G. H. Payne, I. O. Payne, B. L. Payne and J. B. Basnight of Stumpy Point caused much excitement Tuesday afternoon at Horace Hooper's fish house. The four men, near the Fisherman's Exchange dock, struck fish with their oars and decided, more or less for fun, to throw out their net and make a haul to see what. Setting their net not more than ten feet from the dock, and shoving out toward the mouth of the channel, they made a circle and started pulling their net in. The fish were so heavy they started taking the floats under and the men called for extra help. Several men had gathered by this time, quite a few from the Navy barracks and strangers passing in cars had stopped; so plenty of help was available. After much excitement, hard pulling and dipping out fish into a "shad boat," the catch was thrown out of the boat onto the dock and culled. There were 4200 lbs. of mullets. One of the motorist passing, Cecil Berry, made the remark that he had always heard of catches like this but it was the first time he had ever seen it. Mrs. Doris Twiford, employed at Fisherman's Exchange, wished for her camera to take pictures.

Anyone for a fish fry? Come in and visit Fisherman's Exchange. There are enough mullets to go around.

MASHOES FIRST TO REPORT COLLECTIONS FOR POLIO

The small community of Mashoes, with 11 inhabitants on the Dare County mainland is the first community to report its collections in the recent polio drive according to county chairman, Mrs. Helen Baum of Manteo. These 11 people contributed \$25. John W. Midgett community chairman.

All reports are expected to be in this week. The Oddfellows and Rebekahs got a total of \$252 by collecting on the Roanoke and Croatan Sound bridges two weeks ago.

PANCAKE SUPPER TO BE HELD ON SHROVE TUESDAY

The annual Shrove Tuesday pancake supper held by the Woman's Auxiliary of St. Andrew's-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, will be put on this year on February 18 in the dining room of the Arlington Hotel, Nags Head. The hours will be from 5:30 until 7:30, and proceeds will go to help the auxiliary in its work in the parish. The public is invited to attend. The charges will be most reasonable.