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WHOPPING BIG TIME BEGINS JULY 1 FOR 8-DAY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION IN BELHAVEN

The Town Is Planning The Biggest Event So Far Undertaken In Eastern North Carolina This Year, and Belhaven May Have 30,000 Visitors During the Three-Day Period; Huge Program Shaping Up.

By BEN DIXON MacNEILL

Again in the midst of a celebration, this time of its 50th birthday and collateral matters that include a new \$150,000 hospital, this crap-and-oyster and seed-corn capital of North Carolina has dusted off its unpatented fish-fryer—capacity: one ton every ten minutes—and at 1 o'clock on July Fourth will be ready and willing to feed all comers, up to and including ten times the town's population of 3,000.

Feeding 30,000 people a mess of fried trout means next to nothing to this sprightly town. They've done it before, beginning 21 years ago when they celebrated the opening of the Pungo link of the Inland Waterway with the late Josephus Daniels and the late Congressman John H. Small as the principal dignitaries. This time it will be Senator U. S. Senator, Clyde R. Hoey who will address massed congregations at the ball park on Sunday morning, the day before the Fourth.

Master Farmer Fred Latham who, at 77, has come home from the hospital as good as new to resume his place as elder statesman in the Pungo basin and to take on new duties as a member of the State Conservation Commission, designed and built the unpatented fish-cooking machine when the community was confronted with the necessity of feeding 30,000 people that festive day in 1938. The device is also as good as new and the only problem that now remains is catching that many fish. Trout are not as plentiful as they used to be, but they have deep freeze plants now and they can freeze up.

With so much on its hands those in charge of events have decided to take three days at it, beginning on Saturday with the town's 25th annual water carnival, topped off by a gigantic street carnival featured by something that probably no other town ever thought of—they loose 100 frying size chickens from the roof of the town hall and let the crowd scramble. There's a greased pig too.

Sunday is the Sabbath and will be observed accordingly with Senator Hoey promised as big a congregation as any man has ever addressed in North Carolina when he speaks at the ball park in the morning. All churches will attend, white and colored. The service will be followed by a big homecoming picnic. There will be events on the water in the harbor during the afternoon and evening, topped off by a demonstration by the Benny Baxter water ski troupe. Tar Heels Afloat will cruise here with about 100 yachts for the three day event.

Outboard motor boat races, first held in North Carolina on the Pungo River in 1924 will begin at 9 o'clock Monday morning and continue until a monster parade gets under way at noon, headed toward the fish-frying grounds. Corn bread, especially ground from Latham's Double selected corn, native cabbage cole slaw and native potato salad, will round out the dinner.

Dedication of the modern hospital will be staged under the auspices of the State Medical Care Commission at 2 o'clock. Details of the program of this event are still in the making. The day will end with a fashion parade on the grounds of River Forest Hotel, a monster fireworks display over the river, a dance and queen-crowning.

Every organization in the Pungo is taking a hand. These include Rotary, Lions, Masonic, and Clean Legion clubs, Eastern PTA, the town government, Church auxiliaries, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Athletic Club, and Ministerial Association.

BEGINS MONDAY ENGELHARD METHODIST

C. Harmon, pastor, announced that a revival will begin next night, June 20, at Engelhard Methodist Church. The service will be conducted by Rev. W. H. Washington. Services will be at 8 o'clock. The church is cordially invited to attend.

PONZER HAS A NATIVE SON WITH A PURPOSE



By CARLTON MORRIS

GURWOOD RADCLIFF has the distinction of being one of the few men from Hyde County to go around the world underwater, but that is exactly what he did. He enlisted in the Navy on Aug. 12, 1942, and he enlisted with a purpose. That purpose was to do his duty toward his country and get back to Hyde County and get to doing something that he considers really important. Upon his enlistment in the Navy he was assigned to a LST and all his work was in the engine room, therefore, he was underwater most of the time. He visited 27 foreign countries during his stay in the Navy. He went to such places as Calcutta, Bombay, Shanghai, French Morocco, Algiers, Burma, Arabia, and Egypt, to name a few, and he was in the invasions of Sicily, Italy and France. He also went through the Panama Canal a number of times as well as the Suez Canal.

He is the third son of Mrs. Mary and the late George Radcliff. He was born right here in Ponzer on his mother's farm and he feels that there might be a better place to live but as he has only been in 27 countries beside the U. S. He never did come across a better place.

He doesn't believe in putting all his eggs in one basket, where his farming is concerned. He farms 100 acres of land, raising mostly corn and beans but he doesn't depend entirely on this for a living. He has a great deal of natural pasture and derives a fine income from his hogs and cattle. He does all of his farming with tractors and delivers his hogs to market in his own trucks. He is an outstanding success as a farmer because he is doing something that he likes to do and is living where he wants to live. He spent six years of his life in the Navy and he pretty well covered the world in that time and his advice to the lad who is just starting out in the world is to look around him before he starts chasing rainbows. Often times his destiny is right at home, and too, when the grass looks greener on the other side of the fence you had better take a close look for it could be an optical illusion.

Gurnwood is a sober, straightforward, hard working man of 28 years. He is single and likely to remain that way unless you girls get busy. I don't advise any girl to apply for the job if she doesn't like Hyde County.

MASONS AND WIVES FED BY EASTERN STAR

The members of the Order of the Eastern Star of Belhaven Chapter, 234, entertained the Masons and their wives of Belhaven Lodge, 509, at a buffet supper Wednesday evening. The supper was held at the Community House, and consisted of Ham sandwiches, potato salad, pickles, deviled eggs, ice cream, cake and iced tea. Of an expected 125 people only 75 attended. After supper everyone was entertained by a song fest put on by several members of both orders. Mrs. Claud Ricks officiated at the piano. Everyone reported a very pleasant evening.

POTATOES ARE ROLLING

By Harriet Brown Harris

Hunting season, fishing season and potato season are definite phases in the life of Belhaven citizens. Hunting at this time of the year is a happy memory, fishing a future anticipation, but potatoes a very present reality. The ever dependable spud has been rolling this week—from the small private garden as well as from the acres of the large commercial producer. The small gardener soon had his table crop dug and housed but the large producer is still hard at it—digging, washing, grading, bagging and shipping.

An old-timer would be much impressed by the changes that have taken place in the handling of this major eastern Carolina crop. Gone is the wooden barrel, gone the haphazard grading, gone the uncertainty of housing and future disposal. In their place is the jute bag, the highly mechanized, accurate grader, and the truck waiting at the field to transport the crop to far-away places. A visit to nearby Swindell's or Wilkinson will convince one that even potato production is today a streamlined process taking its cue from the factory assembly line. Every possible form of mechanized equipment that can possibly be used to cut time and labor are employed locally—even an airplane to supply repair parts from Raleigh. Due to the use of tractors, even laborers can be transported from comparatively long distances as temporary workers to assist in handling the fairly perishable crop. Then there is also the new factor of government inspection and government purchasing. At the present time about fifteen outsiders are in Belhaven handling these two fairly recent innovations.

Possibly the greatest change noted locally in the handling of potatoes this year is the almost exclusive use of truck transportation even on long hauls. Last week the local railroad office handled only twenty-one cars. Last year at this time twenty-one was a daily, not a weekly quota. Indeed there has hardly been a time on Highway 264 for over a week when one was out of sight of one of the huge trucks that piled high with full jute bags, mean locally that potatoes are moving.

As one stands on the sideline and watches the movement of the crop, one can't help speculating on (Continued on Page Four)

MORE LAND FOR BIG CELEBRATION BEING ADDED

It's Just Going to Take a Lot of Room in Belhaven July 4

When Chairman Axson Smith and his committee got through laying out the scenario of this indestructible town's celebration of its 50th anniversary lasting three days beginning on July 2nd, he discovered with some dismay that the show was too big for the stage. They needed at least two acres more ground for the sort of fish fry they are planning and for the crowds that will come to witness the water carnival in Matchapungo river.

Less resourceful people might have cut down the proposed celebration down to size, but not so Axson Smith. He decided to add the required acreage to his location, which is the old Wilkinson mansion now converted into the River Forest Hotel, and by the time the celebration opens two weeks from Saturday, there will be room and to spare for every thing they have planned, plus—unless some unforeseen catastrophe happens to the dredge that he completed yesterday afternoon.

Adding a couple of acres of land to your lot is not such a complex problem along the Matchapungo river. All you need is a good retaining wall and a sand-sucker. You suck some sand up out of the river and dump it inside the retaining wall. It makes good dry land and it also makes good harborage for Tar Heels Afloat and other yachts that come here with increasing frequency. And it will restore to the once fabulous Wilkinson House grounds all of their one-time quality that once rated the place the handsomest residential establishment in the State.

Mr. Smith these days attends meetings of the Celebration Committee clad only in a pair of shorts and a sweat shirt. He is superintending the work himself, and doing a good deal of it. The retaining wall timbers are virtually in place and the sand pumping will get under way by the first of next week.

AN OUTSTANDING HOME AGENT IN HYDE PRAISED



By NELL WECHTER

With the resignation of Iberia Roach Tunnell as Home Agent in Hyde County, North Carolina farm women, particularly those in Hyde County, lose one of the outstanding workers in Home Demonstration work in the State. Home Demonstration work was begun in Hyde County, September 1, 1914, whereas other counties of North Carolina had been receiving benefits of the work for 20 or 25 years. In spite of its infancy under the direction of Miss Iberia Roach, now Mrs. Tunnell, a native of Rutherford County, the work has grown rapidly and has become a vital factor in the lives of many Hyde County people.

Much credit is due Mrs. Tunnell who not only organized the work but had to sell herself to the people, the home demonstration program being so new. Under her leadership and as a result of much hard work, long hours, and the cooperation of the people, 12 home demonstration clubs have been organized with 250 members, making it one of the most influential groups in the county. Six clubs have been organized and meet monthly in Engelhard, Swindell Fork, Ponzer, Fairfield, Sladesville, Swan Quarter, Tiny Oak, North Lake, Lake Landing, Rose Bay, Nebraska, and Pleasant Grove.

The county council was organized in 1942. This is composed of officers from the local clubs and they meet quarterly serving as an advisory board to the Home Agent in determining places, policies, and programs. (Continued on page four)

MOTOR SHIP MAKES Trips Tri-Weekly TO OCRACOKE

Another Venture Backed by Wahab to Bring Business to Ocracoke

Bearing the name of Lindsay C. Warren, Comptroller General of the United States, Washington native and former Congressman from the First District, a converted sub-chaser painted a gleaming white is now plying the Pamlico river and sound on regular schedules between Washington and Ocracoke, "the Bermuda of North Carolina."

This is another venture backed by Stanley Wahab, the patron saint of Ocracoke Isle.

A revised sailing schedule has just been released to conform with local needs and Wednesday afternoon trips down the Pamlico as well as moonlight sails each Friday night, have been arranged by the N. C. Coastal Sloopline, Captain Glenn Willis, master and manager.

The ship has twin diesel engines and is equipped for inland and offshore waters. There are sleeping accommodations for about 40 persons. There is a hostess—good food, restaurant style—refreshments and dancing. The Lindsay C. Warren is a 118-foot ship.

The Wednesday afternoon cruise beginning at 2:30 for four hour will take about 100 passengers (without congestion) down at least as far as Indian Island and return. The maiden trip will be made tomorrow for the down the river outing.

"Ocracoke Island, N. C., is different". One of the famous Outer Banks, it is built around Silver Lake where your boat will dock. Sandy trails wind beneath water oaks and yaupon bushes. A large flat extends behind the village to the beach where is unexcelled for surf-casting.

"In the village you can rent skiffs for bottom fishing. There is a small hotel with dining room as well as a restaurant. There is a command-car taxi for going up the banks to see the wild ponies, or to visit the old lighthouse. Northward lies Cape Hatteras, reached by ferry. Informality and ease are the words for Hatteras.

BELHAVEN LADIES PLAN BIG FASHION SHOW ON JULY 4

Expect to Display All Fashions of the 50 Years of Town's History

Spurred on by the favorable comments that are still circulating about last year's Jaycee fashion show, the committee in charge of the event which is being staged this year as part of the fiftieth anniversary celebration has completed the plans for this year's show that will surpass in beauty and styling last year's outstanding exhibition. Roswell Cox, chairman of the fashion show, has released the following information as to the event for this year.

The show will be held on the front portico of the River Forest Manor. The tentative time has been set for Monday, July 18th at 7:30 P. M. The Pungo Book Club will handle the sale of tickets and the seating of the audience. Mrs. E. W. Midgette is chairman of the committee from the club that will direct these activities. The cost of admission has been set at 50 cents and admission will be by ticket purchased at the Main Street entrances to the Manor at the beginning of the show. There will be no table reservations. Mrs. Eddie Voliva, who has charge of the girls who will act as usherettes and cigarette girls, advises that she has designed a costume appropriate to the occasion and her group of girls will be ready to assist in serving the refreshments that are covered by the admission price. Mrs. Billy Griffin, working with a group of Boy Scouts, will have charge of the seating arrangements. Mrs. Griffin would like for anyone who has a card table that is lendable to contact her.

The show itself will be presented as an original skit entitled "A Long Fashion's Way." It depicts the changing scene in fashions from the small pre-school child through school days, childhood parties, graduation, dances, days at the beach, college days, marriage, housekeeping, shopping, and the activities of the modern matron. The finale will be enacted to the music, "Through the Years" and will feature those appearing in the show whom the judges select during the event as candidates for the beauty contest which will take place at the dance following the fashion show. Assisting in the presentation of the skit will be Messdames A. L. Johnston, T. S. Jordan, W. E. Bateman and Miss Rosa Gray Hamilton. (Continued on Page Four)

SMALL TOWNS TO GET SHARE OF ROAD FUNDS

Belhaven's Share \$4,081; Manteo \$1,673; Money to be Used on Highways Through Small Towns

Small towns in North Carolina are to get allotments from highway funds during the next 12 months to repair and build streets. Allotments announced by the Highway Commission this week are as follows: Belhaven \$4,081; Columbia \$1,679; Manteo \$1,673; Nags Head \$2,818; Engelhard \$1,299.

The 396 small towns in the State will get a total of \$1,918,214. These towns are of less than 2,500 population. The money must be first spent on streets which form a part of the State highway system, and second on streets which form "important connecting links" to the State Highway System, or the county highway system or farm-to-market roads.

ENGINEERS SHIFTED ON HIGHWAY JOBS

Plan May Prevent Highway Forces Growing Moribund; New Ideas and Stimulus Expected

The news that there has been a shift in Highway Engineers sounds like a good plan. Fortunately, the Second and First divisions were well pleased as matters stood, but there has been a growing belief in the state for some years that it might be better to transfer the engineers occasionally. For one thing it has been often the case that the engineers run the division. So many Commissioners, after building a few pet roads for their own towns, have then let the Engineers do as they pleased.

W. N. Sprull, Second Division Engineer, who is a native of Tyrrell County, and long stationed at Greenville, has been transferred to the First Division with offices in Ahoskie. He will replace T. J. McKim who for the past two years has served the First Division, and Mr. McKim will go to Wilson with the Fourth Division. Romulus Markham will go from Wilson to Greenville to replace Mr. Sprull. Nine engineers in all were given appointments.

BELHAVEN'S HOSPITAL TO OPEN FRIDAY, JUNE 23RD; MRS. LUCY SMITH MANAGER

Hospital Committee Monday Night Announced Appointment of Beaufort County Welfare Superintendent With Approval of State and County Authorities; to Manage 24-Bed Hospital; Dr. M. O. Fletcher to Assist in Opening Hospital.

MEDICAL DIRECTOR BELHAVEN HOSPITAL



DR. ELLIS G. WINSTEAD, Belhaven's senior physician was elected at a meeting of the Trustees Tuesday night as Medical Director of the Belhaven Hospital, and he accepted. The election was unanimous. Dr. Winstead is a native of Beaufort County, and was the first Beaufort County boy to enter the service in World War I when he ran away from Trinity Park School in Durham and enlisted in the Marines. After the war he decided that he wanted to be a doctor and so he went to the University of Richmond, and then the Medical College of Virginia. Dr. Winstead married Miss Anne Murphy in 1920, and they have three children: Ellis G., Jr., Mrs. James Younts and Miss Anne Winstead. Dr. Winstead is a member of the town's light and water commission.

AN AUGUSTA STUDENT



J. HAROLD LUPTON, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Lupton of Belhaven holds rank of Sergeant at Augusta Military Academy where he has just completed his third year. He has recently returned home for the summer season.

HYDE FARMERS HEAR MARKET SPECIALISTS

H. R. Nixwonger, Horticulture Specialist with the N. C. Extension Service, and Joe Gouley, Marketing Specialist with the State Department of Agriculture, spoke to a group of 175 representative farmers from Hyde County regarding an auction market for vegetables. The meeting was held in the Engelhard school auditorium Thursday night, June 9, with excellent interest in the venture.

Farmers present stated that vegetables could be grown on a commercial scale on most of the soils in Hyde County. The farmers present joined together in a movement to establish an auction market for vegetable products and plan enough of the various vegetable crops to assure buyers for the market. As a result of this meeting, an organization meeting for setting up the working principles of the auction has been called for Tuesday night, June 14, in the Engelhard school auditorium at 8:30. Further details regarding the market will be discussed at this time.

Mrs. Lucy W. Smith, Beaufort County Welfare Officer, has been named as Manager of the Belhaven Hospital, which is to be opened Friday, June 23, according to W. P. O'Neal, Chairman of the Pungo District Health Center.

The employment of Mrs. Smith was made with the approval of the State and County Welfare Boards, and she will enter upon her new duties with the temporary assistance of Dr. Maynard O. Fletcher, retired Washington physician, who formerly managed the Taylor Hospital in his home town. The benefit of his wide hospital experience was sought by the Committee before Mrs. Smith became available for the post.

The formal dedication of the hospital will take place on July 14th, when the town will also formally observe its 50th anniversary. At this time the hospital will be in full operation form.

Hospital's History
The acquisition of this hospital came only after a lot of hard work on the part of many public spirited citizens, and a review of some of the work which began some two years ago should now be of interest.

In January, 1947, a group of citizens met and organized the Belhaven Hospital Building Corporation and the original signers were H. V. Latham, W. P. O'Neal, the Belhaven Mayor and town druggist, with Mrs. O'Neal. In this group of original incorporators were E. L. Voliva, J. H. Lupton, W. E. Bateman, L. H. Johnson, Dr. Clifford C. Byrum, Guy Davis, J. A. Lee, J. L. Lancaster, A. B. Bethune, Scott Topping, F. T. Paul, C. G. Westerbeck, D. W. Lupton, W. H. Voliva, J. E. Edwards, J. C. McKeel, L. L. Johnson, M. L. Andrews, Walter Zachowski, Reginald Bishop, Clyde Potter, R. Y. Williams, and Clyde Burgess.

Before the complete plans for the non-stock and non-profit corporation had been effected, the State became much interested in the provisions of the Hill-Burton Public Health Aid Bill, and the Pungo District Hospital Corporation rested on its oars until they could look into the possibility of bringing State and Federal Aid to Belhaven.

When it was found there was a possibility of obtaining Hill-Burton aid they made application, but with Beaufort County in "C" priority status it was decided to create a district which included the Belhaven recorder's court area including parts of Bath, Longwood, and all of Pantego Townships. In the summer of 1947, just a year ago, the corporation was amended and named the Pungo District Hospital Corporation. In January the group made up a project for the construction of a 24-bed hospital one story cinder block brick veneer, with wood floor and no basement. On March 27, 1948, the project had moved along so rapidly that it was approved by the North Carolina Medical Care Commission and the United States Public Health Service, and on March 16 a contract was awarded to James W. Eger, of Wilson, North Carolina, to construct the hospital. The ground was broken in April on October 1 the building was complete; a remarkable tribute to the vision and energy of Belhaven people—the first hospital in the United States constructed directly without levy upon taxpayers of the district, private subscriptions.

This group raised a \$33,816 exclusive of the legal fees, the site being donated at \$1,500. The cost of building this hospital was \$99, and the largest was Beaufort County. Horticulturist, Honorable Latham, who gave the total general contract for the hospital was \$50,000 and for equipment and for "net" bills short by \$139,000. This was designed primarily of the Pungo Health Center to be open to people of the mainland of Beaufort County who were in need of hospital services.

Members of the (Continued on page four)