

# Kent County News

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| THE WEEKLY WEATHER  |      |                |            |            |
|---|------|----------------|------------|------------|
| By Thomas W. Ellason, Jr.                                   |      |                |            |            |
| THIS WEEK   |      | 26 YEAR RECORD |            |            |
| Date  | Max. | Min.           | Max. (yr.) | Min. (yr.) |
| February 24   | 44   | 23             | 70 (1961)  | 13 (1947)  |
| February 25   | 62   | 28             | 66 (1961)  | 19 (1938)  |
| February 26   | 34   | 24             | 67 (1951)  | 14 (1940)  |
| February 27   | 59   | 28             | 70 (1946)  | 9 (1963)   |
| February 28   | 53   | 30             | 72 (1954)  | 16 (1941)  |
| March 1   | 53   | 28             | 67 (1955)  | 16 (1941)  |
| March 2   | 54   | 28             | 64 (1961)  | 14 (1962)  |
| Total Precipitation 0.45 inches — Total Snowfall Tr. inches |      |                |            |            |

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## State Convicts Nine

# Leans Toward New Trial In Campher Hung Jury

State's Attorney William Parsons Fennell, who got nine convictions in ten trials for violations of the alcoholic beverage laws, is leaning toward seeking a new trial in the one case lost by a "hung" jury.

Elmer Elester Campher, 56, Chestertown, was the defendant freed when the jury failed to agree last Friday. It was reported that the jury stood 8 to 4 for conviction.

Found guilty, but as yet unsentenced, was Sarah Catherine Thomas, employed by Campher. She was tried by the Court.

Last Friday was also the day for sentencing seven of the nine who had been convicted. Fines for these totalled \$4,475, plus costs, and all were given suspended "prison" terms plus probation.

An eighth, Owen Charles Phillips, 49, Rock Hall, was found guilty but has not yet been sentenced.

Sentenced Friday were:

William Alfred Briscoe, 58, Galena, on a charge of selling from his auto—\$350 and costs, plus nine months suspended sentence, probation for one year.

Morris Jerome Bratcher, alias Buddy Morris, 51, Chestertown, on a charge of selling—\$350 and costs, plus six months suspended sentence, probation for one year.

George Albert Blake, 56, Chestertown, on a charge of keeping for sale—\$300 and costs, plus six months suspended sentence, probation for one year.

Bernice Johnson, 46, Chestertown, on a charge of keeping for sale—\$350 and costs, plus six months suspended sentence, probation for one year.

Charles Leonard Johnson, 54, Chestertown, on a charge of selling from his auto—\$350 and costs, plus six months suspended sentence, probation for one year.

Samuel McGreer, Chestertown, on two charges of selling—\$100 and costs each case, plus six months suspended sentence, probation for two years—on the charge of keeping for sale—\$250 and costs, plus six months suspended sentence, probation for two years (sentences concurrent).

Arthur Washington "Buck" Warren, Chestertown, on a charge of keeping for sale—\$325 and costs, plus one year suspended sentence, one year probation.

## Nearly \$800 In Collateral Posted By 5 For Illegal Deer Traffic

Collateral totaling \$789.75 has been posted in Magistrate's Court here by five people, all with Rock Hall addresses, on charges of illegally hunting deer and disposing of the meat.

Trials in the cases have been set for next Monday, March 8.

The Magistrate's Court records show that Walter J. Hepbron, Richard Leroy Hepbron and David Joiner have posted \$117.95 each.

Henry L. Parker and Ann Rose Blackwood each have posted in the amount of \$217.95. The latter couple, it is reported, was disposing of the deer meat to out-of-state sources.

## Town Council Siren Moved, But Not Far

March came in like a lamb and the monthly meeting of Chestertown's Mayor and Council on Monday was comparably mild. Routine matters occupied the town body for less than two hours.

A petition presented by Vernon Downey with 47 signatures of residents of the College Heights area protested the placing of an auxiliary fire siren in the rear of the College Heights Filling Station.

Richard Carswell represented the Chestertown Volunteer Fire Company and after some discussion, the firemen agreed to place the siren across Route 213 behind Watkins Auto Supply, about 100 yards from the original site and outside the town limits.

James J. White, III, an attorney, sought a permit for a Jiffy Auto Wash station in the rear of Radish Grocery on High Street. He was instructed to contact the Water and Sewer Department concerning the amount of water required and the quantity sewers would be required to carry off.

Mayor Haack informed the Council that Chestertown owned 5.957 acres of Washington College leasehold property. He said Assessor F. Vannort Simpers had estimated the assessed value at \$6,550.

Requests for one way restrictions on Kent Street between High and Cannon and on Cannon Street between Queen and Water were tabled until the respective Councilmen could interview residents of the wards.

Councilman J. Willis Wells reported that the five property owners who had provided land for the municipal parking lot off Bartley's Alley had agreed to the use of the land for another year.

Residents of Byford Heights requested a street light at the intersection of David Drive and Kent Street.

William Buckingham, representing Baker & Watts, of Baltimore, offered the service of his firm as advisors in any bonding business the town might require.

Chief Howard Hadaway reported that the State Roads Commission had not yet placed no parking signs as requested on the east side of Washington Avenue near the College.

## County Man Hurt In Fatal 2-Car Florida Crash

A Kent County man, Earl Thompson, of Still Pond, was badly injured February 24 in a two-car crash on U. S. Route 1, north of Fort Pierce, Fla. He was riding in a car driven by his brother, Carlton Thompson, 73, of Vero Beach, Fla.

The Kent man was still in the hospital yesterday. He suffered multiple cuts of the face and head.

A 72-year-old man, Boleslav Petryla, of Vero Beach, a passenger in the other car, died of injuries five hours after the crash.

Carlton Thompson, 73; his wife, Alice, 76; and Earl's wife, Mildred, 59, were treated at the hospital and released.

Florida police said the Thompson car was passing another when the second auto in the crash drove into the highway. The driver of the second car was charged with failing to yield right-of-way.

Police said the Thompson car hit the other car dead center, knocking it 62 feet. The Thompson car slid 14 feet sideways and Earl Thompson's head struck the windshield.



FOLK-SINGING DUO from Chestertown High, Robert Fleetwood, Jr. and Donna Fogwell, will be featured in the Betterton-Still Pond Lions Club "Evening of Music" this Friday.

## 'Night of Music' Friday

A 14-act musical program, "An Evening of Music," will be presented this Friday, March 5, in Russell Gymnasium, Washington College, by the Betterton-Still Pond Lions Club.

Among the featured presentations will be the Mello Chords Barber Shop Quartet; the Madras Minstrels; the Sudlersville Choir; the Rock Hall Chorus; Vibrations Unlimited; Washington College Folk Singers; Charmayne Dierker, vocalist; Susan Hollett, pianist; Donna Fogwell and Robert Fleetwood, Chestertown High folk singers; Mrs. Clare Bergen, organist; George Hessler and Mrs. Paul Rollison, Jr., organ-piano duo; Harold Taylor, trumpeter; and the Singing Strings of the Chesapeake.

The Rock Hall Chorus and the Sudlersville Choir will combine for the finale.

Proceeds from the musicale will go to the sponsoring club's Community Betterment program.

## County Man Hurt Faces Delaware Police After Auto Term Here

A Millington youth, serving 87 days in the Kent jail in default of payment of fines on auto convictions, will be turned over to Delaware authorities to face burglary charges when released here.

Donald Raymond Moore, 20, with Peter Alan Ward, 19, of Henderson, are charged by Delaware State Police with a February 17 burglary of the Southern States Cooperative in Clayton.

Moore was arrested on "hit-and-run" and two other charges here on February 20, after striking a car in Pomona and failing to stop. On Thursday of last week in Magistrate's Court here he was fined a total of \$111 on guilty pleas to displaying altered tags, failing to stop after an accident and reckless driving. He was jailed in default of payment.

State police here suspected the quantity of goods found in his car—batteries, tools, tires, etc.—and found that they answered description of articles taken in the Southern States burglary.

## Nine Girl Scout Leaders Are Awarded Service Pins

Fifteen year pins went to two Kent County women as District B. Girl Scouts of America, met last week in Centerville. Recipients of the service awards were Mrs. Thelma O'Grady and Mrs. Walter Hadley, both of Galena.

A 10-year award went to Mrs. George Burzer, of Remington Farms. Five-year pins were presented Mrs. Frank A. Tarbuton, Mrs. Samuel J. Massey, Jr., Mrs. Robert Hollett, Mrs. Alvin Townsend, Mrs. Don T. Falls, Jr., and Mrs. Roger W. Simpkins, all of Chestertown.

Girl Scout Week will be observed March 7-14, opening with all local Scouts and Brownies attending 11 a. m. services at Emmanuel Protestant Episcopal Church.

Also scheduled during the week are:

March 8—Troop 20, Mother-Daughter Banquet.

March 9—Troop 107—Parent-Daughter Banquet.

March 11—Brownie Troop 208—Open House, Scout Room, 4 to 5 p. m.

March 12—Birthday of Girl Scouting. Many troops will have store window displays.

At the district meeting last week changes in by-laws and improvements to Camp Todd and Grove Point were discussed in preparation for the annual meeting in Dover.

Suggestions included docks, additional shelters, kitchen alterations and the winterization of at least one building at each camp so that week-end camping would be possible the year around.

The annual Cookie Sale this year was termed a great success and funds raised should help for some of the desired improvements.

## Local Legislation

# Would Create 9-Member Government Study Body In Kent, Increase Fire Aid

## Companies Get Higher Guarantees

ANNAPOLIS—Kent County volunteer fire companies would be assured higher minimum annual appropriations from the County Commissioners under SB 504 introduced in the General Assembly Tuesday by Senator Percy M. Hepbron.

As a result of conferees two years ago, all of the county's six companies were granted increases by the County Commissioners which carried them beyond the minimum set in the original enabling legislation.

The Chestertown company is now receiving \$4,000 while those at Rock Hall, Betterton, Kennedyville, Galena and Millington receive \$3,000 each. The Kent-Queen Anne's Rescue Squad has been receiving \$1,500.

It is understood that the new act will set the present appropriations as the minimum—a guarantee to the fire companies that some succeeding board will not cut the amounts.

The fire companies sought the legislation, through the County Commissioners, in order that they could better determine annual budgets.

Also introduced yesterday by Senator Hepbron was SB 503 which increases from \$1,000 to \$2,000 annually the amount the County Commissioners may spend on required publications of such items as the levy and audit.

## County Would Retain Senator, 1 Delegate

Kent County would retain its one senator and one of its two members of the House of Delegates under reapportionment bills passed yesterday in the lower house of the Maryland General Assembly.

The House also passed a congressional redistricting measure which added Harford to the nine Eastern Shore counties to create the First Congressional District.

Three measures were involved in the redistribution of General Assembly membership and the redrawing of the congressional district lines. The bills now go to the Senate where concurrence will essentially make them law since Governor Tawes has been in general sympathy with the changes.

The reapportionment measure retains the House membership at 142 but the seats would be shifted to better represent the population. Here is a county-by-county breakdown of the new seating plus, in parentheses, the present:

Allegheny 4 (6); Anne Arundel, 9 (7); Baltimore city, 43 (39); Baltimore county, 22 (13); Calvert, 1 (2); Caroline, 1 (2); Carroll, 2 (4); Cecil, 2 (3); Charles, 2 (2); Dorchester, 1 (4); Frederick, 3 (6); Garrett, 1 (3); Harford, 4 (4); Howard, 2 (2); Kent, 1 (2); Montgomery, 16 (10); Prince Georges, 16 (10); Queen Annes, 1 (2); St. Marys, 2 (2); Somerset, 1 (3); Talbot, 1 (3); Washington, 4 (6); Wicomico, 2 (4); and Worcester, 1 (3).

In the Senate the membership would be increased from 29 to 53 with the extra seats going to Baltimore City and the four metropolitan counties.

Under the bill, the 19 smaller counties would each continue with one senator. Baltimore City would get 14, Baltimore County, 7, Montgomery and Prince Georges five each and Anne Arundel three.

## Appointive Power To Governor

ANNAPOLIS—An act to create a Kent County Governmental Study Committee was due to be introduced in the Maryland House of Delegates before the deadline date today by Delegates Boyer and Joiner.

The title of the act indicates the committee would be required "to study the governmental structure of Kent County, to provide for the appointment and qualifications of its members, to require it to report promptly, and to provide funds for the purposes of the Committee."

The Committee would be composed of nine members, serving without compensation and appointed by the Governor upon the recommendation of the Kent legislative delegation. The Governor will name one member as chairman.

The County Commissioners, the State Senator and the members of the House of Delegates will serve as ex-officio, non-voting members of the Committee.

The act states: "In appointing the members of the Committee, the appointing authorities shall endeavor to select those whose devotion to the County and its people, whose knowledge of government and sense of historical perspective and whose education and experience especially equip them for membership on the Committee and will assure that the Committee reflects the several interests and regions of the County."

Under the provisions of the act, the Committee is to be appointed by April 15, 1965, and hold its first meeting not later than May 1. It is directed to make its first report before December 15, 1965.

The County Commissioners are directed to provide such assistance and funds as may be required.

The act was submitted as an emergency measure and if passed by three-fifths of the members of the two houses of the General Assembly, will take effect from the date of its passage.

## Pre-Sentence Study On In Robinson Case

A pre-sentence investigation is being made by the State Department of Parole and Probation in the numbers conviction last Friday of Robert Waymon "Pick" Robinson, on two charges of having in possession a lottery ticket.

Robinson was charged with two other counts of selling lottery tickets, after Cpl. Frank O. Boulter, with a member of the Baltimore City Rackets Division combined to make an evidence-gathering investigation. On the selling charges, however, the case was placed on the stet docket, meaning that no trial will be held.

Robinson was arrested at about the same time the "bootleg" raids were made in Kent County on December 13.

## Three From Kent On Good Citizenship Tour

Three Good Citizenship winners from Kent County were taken on a tour of the Maryland Historical Society, the Baltimore and Ohio Mt. Clare Station and Fort McHenry last week.

They were: Nancy Shirk, Galena High and county winner; Carol Batcher, Rock Hall High winner; and Janice Robinson, Garnett High winner.

The trio was accompanied by Mrs. Roxanna Scholastic, chairman of the Good Citizenship Committee, Old Kent Chapter D. A. R. The group had lunch at Northwood-Appold Church in Baltimore.

## Feed-Back Of Electricity Kills Five Cows

A freak feed-back of electric current in a Kent County cow barn caused the loss of five valuable milk cows Saturday.

The accident occurred on the farm of John Price near Fairlee, and Mr. Price narrowly escaped possible injury to himself. Entering the milk barn where some eighteen cows were in stanchions, Mr. Price noticed two of them were down and apparently dead. As he began releasing the others from the stanchions, two more were felled, and a fifth dropped as she headed for the door.

In the barn with Mr. Price at the time were his son and Walter White, of Baltimore.

Later investigation disclosed that current was feeding into the iron pipes holding the stanchions. The cows were not affected by the current until they stepped back and placed a hind foot in the gutter containing water. This, evidently, acted as a ground and caused the death of the animals.

In commenting on the accident, Mrs. John Price said: "Well, it was bad enough but it could have been worse. My husband was wearing rubber boots and this must have grounded him as he turned loose the cows."

The Price herd is comprised of Holsteins and Guernseys.

## Gardner Is Transferred By Campbell Soup Co.

G. L. Gardner was succeeded as manager of the Chestertown plant of the Campbell Soup Company by W. C. Patton on Monday.

No official announcement has been made by the company but it is understood that Mr. Gardner will report to the general offices in Camden, N. J., before being assigned elsewhere.

Mr. Patton, a long-time employee of Campbell, comes to Chestertown from California where he has been for the past nine years. Prior to that he had spent most of his career in the Florida area.

Mr. Gardner came to the Chestertown plant soon after it went into operation in 1960. He has been very active in community affairs, heading the Kent and Queen Anne's Hospital financial drive a year and a half ago. Last year he was co-chairman of the United Fund Drive and was slated for the same post this year.

An avid bird-watcher, he has participated in several of the



G. L. GARDNER

## High Finals Dates Set

Graduation dates for Kent's four high schools, three of them on the same day, were established last week as the Board of Education held its monthly meeting.

Chestertown, Galena and Garnett will hold their exercises on Thursday, June 10. Rock Hall's graduation will be on Friday, June 11.

The Board accepted two resignations and made two appointments.

Miss Amelia Alevizaki, Chestertown High, and Mrs. Alta F. Weiss, Rock Hall High, were those who resigned, effective at the end of the current school year.

Mrs. Virginia H. Ellason, Chestertown, was appointed librarian at Chestertown High. She is a Washington College graduate and is currently doing graduate work in library science at the University of Maryland.

Miss Frances Bynch, of Galena, was named to an elementary position, the definite assignment to be made later. She will receive a BS degree in Elementary Education at Salisbury State in June.

The third and final bus inspection for the current school year is scheduled for March 16 and 17. Several contractors are purchasing new equipment which will be in operation this spring or by the opening of school in September.

School officials were authorized to proceed with arrangements for the annual electrical inspection of all schools. This is done by representatives of the Middle States Fire Underwriters Association.

The Maryland State Teachers Association sponsored a conference on professional negotiations and union activities. This conference was held in Baltimore on February 27. Robert F. Irwin, vice-president of the Board, and Reade W.

Corr, superintendent of schools, represented Kent County at the conference.

For over a decade the University of Maryland has offered extension courses in this area. Kent, Queen Anne's, Caroline and Talbot counties cooperate in sponsoring this year. Courses to be included are based on the results of a survey of interest of teachers in the four-county area.

## Kent Education Is Big Business, Report Shows

Public education in Kent County for the fiscal year which ended June 30, 1964, was a \$1,729,452.17 proposition. That was revealed in the financial statement made a part of the Board of Education's annual report.

The bulk of this sum was provided by the county tax levy and receipts from the state—\$841,780 from the county and \$863,957.67 from the state. Also received was \$51,893.10 from the state incentive fund.

There was a balance of \$144,756.54 on hand as of June 30 made up as follows: General Fund, \$70,276.17; Incentive Fund, \$24,481.61; Dental Fund, \$1,150.76; Special Savings (Ann M. Smith estate) \$9,200; Treasury Notes, \$39,648.

The annual cost per pupil for the period was \$448.69 with \$317.89, or 71 percent, of this amount going for instruction services and \$46.68, or 11 percent, for transportation.

Other dollar and percentage costs were: Operation of school plant \$26.56 (6%); Capital Outlay \$6.08 (1%); Maintenance of school plant \$13.72 (3%); Other programs such as

supervisor of pupil personnel, school lunch program, adult education \$21.96 (5%); Fixed charges \$5.65 (1%).

Disregarding adult education, handicapped, school lunch, capital outlay, etc., the cost per pupil was \$421.11. The cost per pupil in the elementary schools was \$367.92 and in the junior-senior high schools it was \$494.04.

The enrollment for the last fiscal year was given as 3,612 with 2,464, or 68 percent, transported by the bus routes.

Through the help of Parent-Teacher Associations, a total of \$172,821.87 was provided to supply such services as hot lunches, and to supplement funds for library books and athletic equipment.

The report lists 16 buildings as owned by the Board of Education, 15 of them devoted to schools. There are three 2-teacher schools, three 3-teacher schools and five with four or more teachers in the elementary group plus four approved high schools.

Of the 179 teaching and administrative personnel, Maryland provided 133.