

Town prepares for 75th Anniversary celebration

By CHERYL RYCHKOVA
Contributing Editor

Plans are well under way for the June celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Town of Appomattox, according to Anniversary Committee members.

"We have an exciting weekend planned," said Committee Chairman June Chenault. "There will be fun activities for all ages, plus this is an excellent opportunity to learn about and appreciate the heritage of Appomattox."

The celebration will begin the morning of Saturday, June 3 -- kicking off with a parade at 10:30 a.m. Appomattox native and Hollywood actress Deborah Adair will serve as Grand Marshall. The parade will begin at Appomattox Primary School and will proceed to Main Street.

The Appomattox County Recreation Department encourages school, church and civic groups to enter floats in the Anniversary Parade. There is no charge to participants and applications can be obtained from the recreation department.

Immediately following the parade, a brass ensemble will perform in the Courthouse Square.

Virginia State Delegate Watkins Abbitt will then offer a welcome speech and introduce special guest

■ Town Notes

speakers Rev. Jerry Falwell and Hampden-Sydney College President Sam Wilson.

A reenactment of the filing of the town charter will take place on the courthouse steps following the speeches.

Saturday afternoon will offer a variety of musical performances and a festival atmosphere with booths featuring crafts and food.

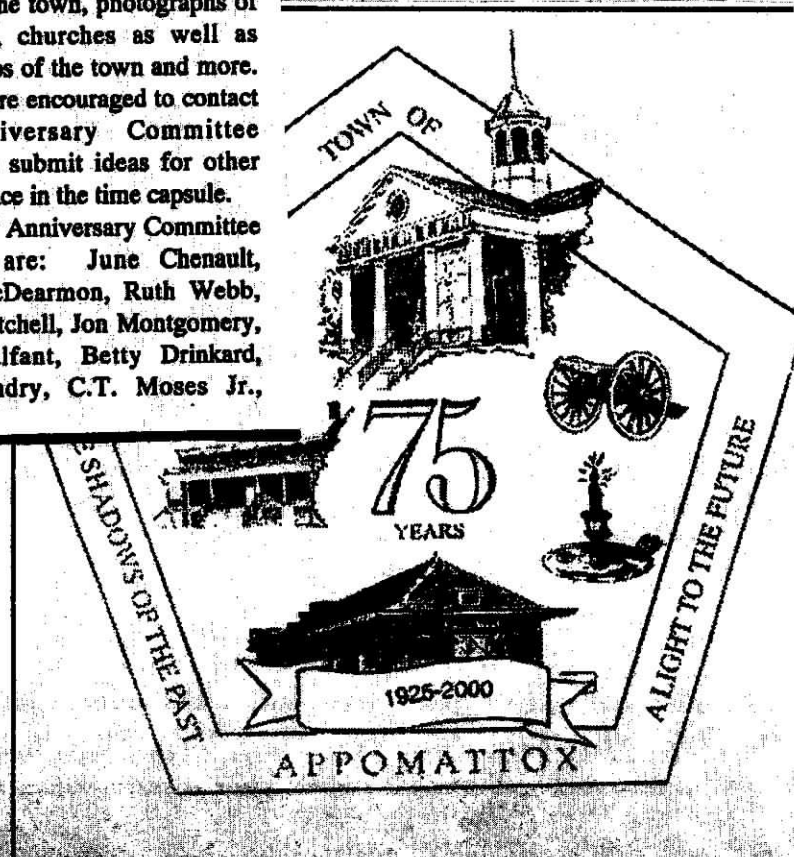
Souvenir programs (\$2) and t-shirts (\$7) will be available for sale as well.

Sunday activities will include more music, the cutting of the town's birthday cake, planting of a time capsule to be opened on the town's 100th anniversary and an evening Vespers prayer service.

The time capsule will contain a history of the town, photographs of businesses, churches as well as aerial photos of the town and more. Residents are encouraged to contact any Anniversary Committee member to submit ideas for other items to place in the time capsule.

The 75th Anniversary Committee members are: June Chenault, Cheryl McDearmon, Ruth Webb, Marvin Mitchell, Jon Montgomery, Tom Chalfant, Betty Drinkard, Mark Landry, C.T. Moses Jr.,

Ronnie Spiggle, Mark Landry, Sandra Landry, Bobbie Mullins and Cheryl Rychkova.



The emblem for the 75th anniversary of the Town of Appomattox was designed by Appomattox resident and Fuqua School student Sarah Holmes.

Mayors to have portraits posted

By CHERYL RYCHKOVA
Contributing Editor

The Appomattox Woman's Club will make a unique contribution to the Town of Appomattox when they unveil a collection of portraits featuring present and past Mayors of Appomattox.

The unveiling ceremony, part of the town's yearlong 75th Anniversary Celebration, will take place ~~Saturday~~ April 9 from 2 to 3 p.m. The public is invited to attend the ceremony and reception that follows.

The 8-inch by 10-inch portraits, all in identical 11-inch by 14-inch frames, will be displayed on a wall in the Town Hall next to the

mayor's office.

Small, engraved brass plates identifying each mayor will be displayed under each portrait.

Woman's Club Committee Chairman Jane Coleman said the project has been enjoyable, though it involved a bit of detective work.

"We wrote to all the families of the previous mayors," she said. "The descendants of one mayor live in Tallahassee, Fla. And there's one former mayor in Danville. Most of them and their families stayed in central Virginia."

Appomattox has had a total of 10 mayors since 1926, beginning with J.W. Cawthorn. In 1927, W.L.

Brown was elected to the position, where he served until 1932.

In 1933, C.S. McDearmon became mayor, followed by C.F. James, who served two separate terms — one from 1945-46, and then again from 1953-54.

G.B. Buchanan served as mayor between 1947-1952. R.D. Robinson was elected to the office in 1953 and served until C.T. Moses Jr. took the position in 1958.

S.R. Lawson was elected mayor in 1961, followed by H.B. Pack Jr. in 1965.

In 1978 R.C. (Ronnie) Spiggle became mayor, a position he continues to hold today.



Town mayors immortalized

More than 70 people gathered at the Appomattox Town Office on Sunday for the unveiling of a collection of portraits featuring past and present mayors of the Town of Appomattox. Standing before the portraits are former Mayor C.T. Moses Jr (Mayor from 1958-60), present Appomattox Mayor Ronnie C. Spiggle and former Mayor Henry B. Pack Jr. (Mayor from 1965-1977). A number of former mayor's family members were in attendance as well. The Appomattox Woman's Club, who sponsored the event as part of the 75th Anniversary Celebration of the Town of Appomattox, provided refreshments.



Downtown Appomattox business leaders prepare for the ribbon-cutting ceremony that kicked off Main Street Dedication and Celebration on Saturday. Photo by Frank Brina

■ Chairman of the Street Committee Steve Lawson said the downtown renovation project was nearing completion.

"A Lee's Retreat sign has been posted downtown and we have plans to install new street signs on Main Street that will go with the new décor," he said. "We've also ordered special decorative flags to display on Main Street."

Lawson said that the streetlight that was struck by a motorist recently would not be replaced.

"We discovered that we could provide more parking by not

replacing this light," he said. "A new one has been ordered in case we need to replace another streetlight later, and the place where the original one was has been asphalted over."

Lawson said there were a number of areas on Main Street that needed further cleaning.

"There's still bits of concrete that need to be removed," he said. "We plan to contact the contractor to take care of this matter."

Main St. Event a Success

MARVIN HAMLETT
Managing Editor

A sizable crowd showed up on Saturday to witness Appomattox's Downtown Main Street Celebration and Dedication.

Before a host of dignitaries and citizens, Main Street business owners took center stage for a ribbon-cutting ceremony that kicked off the event.

Appomattox Mayor Ronnie Spiggle thanked everyone who attended the "celebration and dedication," which was organized in an effort to promote and reward Downtown Appomattox and its businesses.

The Main Street renovation project, which cost nearly a quarter-million dollars, involved a major facelift for the downtown area. Besides converting Main Street to a one-way road, the project also saw



Nine-year-old Alexis Landry, left, gets face-painted by Kelly Cyrus, right.

crosswalks installed, as well as period-style lampposts, waste receptacles and sidewalks.

The project became an ordeal for some business owners, who complained about lack of communication and a loss of business.

But there were no frowns on Saturday, as numerous smiling faces gathered on a sunny and

seasonably mild summer day, during which temperatures stayed in the 70s with a slight breeze.

"We argued a lot during the last two-and-a-half months time and during construction," Spiggle said into a microphone before the ribbon-cutting. "But

we really appreciate all the businesses downtown and on Main Street."

Spiggle said that while the street has always been there, "I think it looks a lot better now because people will know we care about Appomattox."

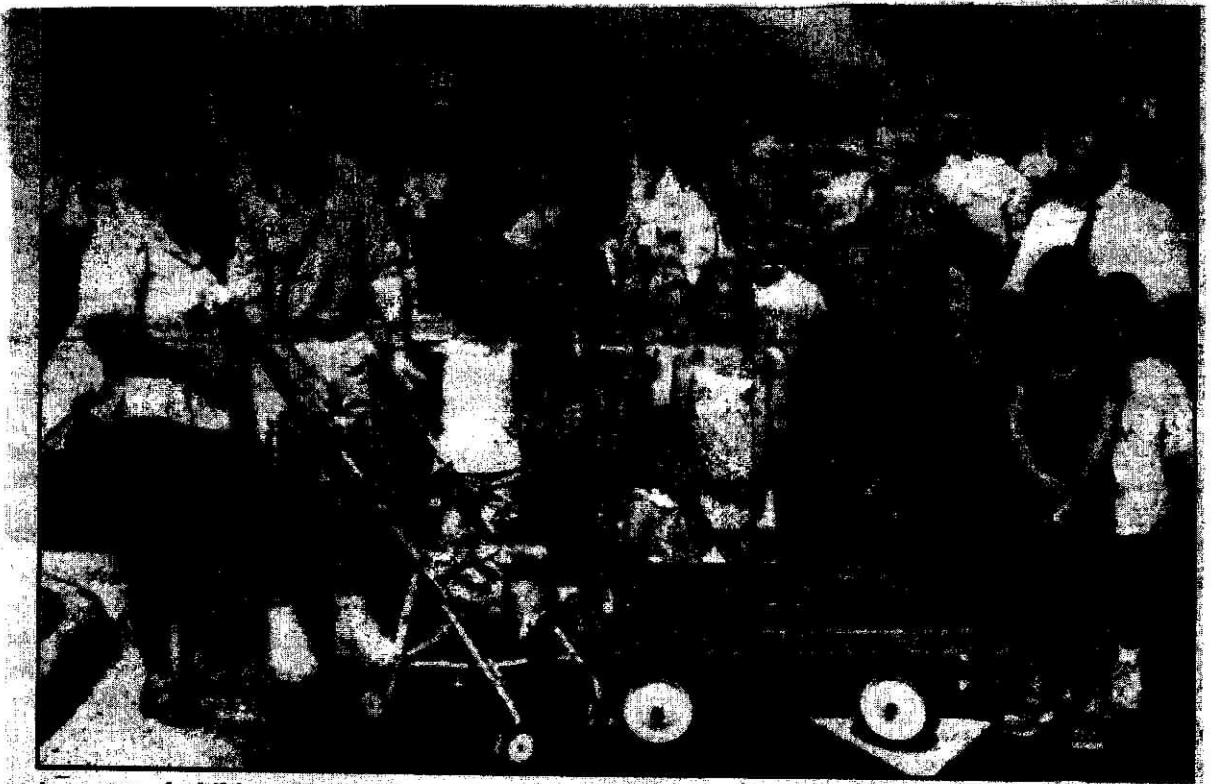
Spiggle touted the potential of boosted tourism as a result of the Main Street project.

He also personally named the many dignitaries and elected officials who attended Saturday's event. They were county supervisors Russell Moore and Frank Carwile, school board members Earl Pickett, Bobby Mitchell, Cliff Rhodenizer and Martha Pankey, VDOT administrator Bob Cassada, GTE representative Robert Jackson, Hurt & Proffitt's Earl Dickerson and Pamplin Mayor Robert Mitchell.

Spiggle also noted the many officials and employees of the Town of Appomattox, including David Garrett, who oversaw the

During the course of the day on Saturday, children enjoyed face-painting, while others enjoyed musical performances from the jazz instrumental group Par 4 and the gospel group Rogers Norman and the Bluegrass Deacons.

Free hot dogs, drinks and cake were served during lunch, and those in attendance also enjoyed sidewalk cafes and displays of antique cars from the Car Museum.



A group of children bunched together to pose for this picture during Saturday's Main Street Dedication and Celebration.



Par 4 performs at Main Street dedication!
The instrumental group Par 4, heading by former Appomattox County High School Band Director Frank Coffey, performed its tunes to the delight of the crowd at Saturday's Main Street Dedication and Celebration.

*Free
Hot Dogs, Drinks & Cake
12:00 noon
Saturday, August 12*

*Town of Appomattox
Main Street Dedication & Celebration
Saturday, August 12, 2000 - 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Join us for Ribbon Cutting Ceremony (10 a.m.)
Musical Entertainment (all day)
including WVHL 93 Live Remote (11-1 p.m.)
Free Hot Dogs, Drinks, Cake (noon)
Merchant Sidewalk Sales
Antique Cars on Display (all day) & Much More.*

*This event is sponsored by the 75th Anniversary Committee
for the Town of Appomattox,
1925 - 2000*

Main Street Dedication to take place Saturday morning at 10

The Town of Appomattox is inviting the public to attend the Main Street Dedication and Celebration on Saturday, Aug. 12 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Main Street will be closed to traffic for the day-long event, which will feature live music, sidewalk sales, food, children's activities and much more.

The Main Street Dedication and Celebration will commemorate the town's recent \$250,000 renovation given to the street. The facelift involved the installation of new lampposts, sidewalks, crosswalks and trash cans, as well as new pavement.

The Aug. 12 event will begin with a 10 a.m. ribbon-cutting ceremony.

At noon, free hotdogs, drinks

and cake will be available to the public.

Live music will soon follow, with Par 4 performing from 1-2 p.m., and Rogers Norman and the Bluegrass Deacons performing from 2-3 p.m.

All of the downtown merchants will have sidewalk sales, and antique cars from Fred's Car Museum will also be on display.

Children can be entertained by strolling clowns doing face-painting and sculpted balloons.

WVHL 93-FM in Farmville will do a live radio remote from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Motorists are reminded that Main Street will be closed on Saturday, Aug. 12 from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sprucing up downtown!

Donald Bates paints the J.A. Burke and Co. building on Main Street last week. The Town of Appomattox will host a Main Street Dedication and Celebration event this Saturday, August 12 at 10 a.m.

Relative of Flood family visits here

By CHERYL RYCHKOVA
Contributing Editor

Visitors to the Appomattox Courthouse Square may ponder the significance of the classically designed mausoleum marked with the family name of Flood.

After all, a burial site on government property isn't a very common practice.

A recent visitor to the Courthouse Square was able to shed some light on what for many seemed something of a mystery.

Cloyd A. Flood, 58, of Bumpers, Va. is a descendant of the Flood family. He is also an enthusiastic amateur genealogist, and on his visit to Appomattox brought along information about the mausoleum and his prominent ancestors.

"Henry (Hal) Flood was brother to my ancestor, James Flood," he said. "So the Appomattox Floods are my cousins."

Henry Flood, born in 1865 at Eldon (a Federal-style plantation home located just outside Appomattox on State Route 26), was a U.S. Congressman for more than 20 years, serving as Chairman for the powerful Foreign Affairs Committee from 1913-1919. He also served in the Virginia State House of Delegates, becoming that legislative body's youngest mem-



Cloyd Flood, a descendant of the prominent Flood family, is pictured above right with Joe Ferris, left and Alan McFadden, middle. Ferris and McFadden are members of the 18th Va. Infantry Unit. The three history buffs were participants in the recent Open House Courthouse.

ber in 1887.

When Congressman Flood died in 1921, his widow petitioned the Board of Supervisors on July 22, 1922 for permission to erect a mausoleum in which to entomb her late husband's remains.

The board voted to allow her to build the \$20,000 column-flanked stone structure in the Courthouse Square. Interestingly, the property on which the mausoleum was built was deeded to the Flood family.

Henry Flood, along with his wife and children, are interred in the Mausoleum.

Cloyd Flood said he has enjoyed getting to know more about his Appomattox connection.

"This is a lovely area," he said smiling. "Everyone here has been helpful to me and my research. There's just so much information available here, it's like a treasure hunt."

Town seeking nominations

The committee for the 75th Anniversary of the Town of Appomattox is seeking nominations for the town's oldest resident.

Nominations must be for individuals who reside within the town limits.

The committee has plans to honor the town's oldest citizen at the anniversary celebration in June.

For more information, contact Jane Chenault at 352-3608.

QUESTS

(Continued from 1)

The anniversary celebration will include many events throughout the coming year. Government and community organizations will be sponsoring specific months of the anniversary year.

June Chenault presented the following monthly sponsors for the celebration:

February - Appomattox County Schools.

March - Appomattox Historical Society.

April - Appomattox Woman's Club.

May - Appomattox Garden Club.

June - 75th Anniversary Celebration.

July - Fourth of July Picnic, Woodman of the World, Eastern Star and Masonic Lodge.

August - American Legion and Women's Auxiliary.

September - Appomattox Chamber of Commerce and the Lion's Club.

The month of January is still available for sponsorship. Any organizations interested in participating during this month may contact the town office.

A t-shirt depicting the seal of the Town of Appomattox has been designed and is available for purchase for \$7. The shirts can be purchased at the town office or at Country Charm.

There will be a commemorative

stamp issued in honor of the town's anniversary. The stamp will feature the town's official seal and there will be a special cancellation.

The anniversary committee has begun organizing fund-raising efforts for the June celebration. Letters are being sent to local businesses offering sponsorships.

Sponsorship levels include: \$600 and over, who will receive four tickets to the anniversary luncheon, four souvenir t-shirts and four souvenir programs; \$500 sponsors will receive two luncheon tickets, two t-shirts and two programs; \$250 sponsors will receive one luncheon ticket, one t-shirt and one program; and \$100

sponsors will receive a t-shirt and program. All sponsors' names will be listed in the souvenir program.

The committee also would like to discover who is the town's oldest resident, so that they may be especially honored during the June celebration. The committee would appreciate any information from the community on this matter.

Anyone with interesting, amusing or unusual anecdotes, photographs or documents from the early days of Appomattox is welcome to share their memories and stories. Those interested in contributing may contact Cheryl Rychkova at the *Times Virginian* at 352-8215.

Falwell, Adair to be guests for town's 75th anniversary

By CHERYL RYCHKOVA
Contributing Editor

When the old Appomattox village made the move to what was then known as "West Appomattox" in 1892, no official town status was established.

For 33 years the town grew and prospered. Then in 1925, at a Circuit Court hearing held on June 2, 1925, "for the county of Appomattox, S.L. Ferguson, A.H. Clement, C.W. Smith and others, being more than 20 qualified voters of the settled community known as Appomattox presented in open court a petition with notice, that the settled community may be incorporated and be known as 'The Town of Appomattox.'"

Three-quarters of a century later, Appomattox is a thriving, growing town, and residents of Appomattox

are planning to celebrate the 75th anniversary.

The official anniversary celebration is set to take place during the weekend of June 3-4.

The Rev. Jerry Falwell will be delivering the invocation and benediction. Hollywood Actress and Appomattox native Deborah Adair will serve as Grand Marshall for the anniversary parade.

The organizing committee for the 75th anniversary met on Friday, Oct. 22, at the town office.

Committee members present were: Cheryl McDearmon, Bobbie Mullins, Tom Chalfant, June Chenault, Ronnie Spiggle, Ruth Webb, Jon Montgomery, Betty Drinkard, C.T. Moses and Cheryl Rychkova.



Three of Appomattox's oldest citizens were recognized as part of the 75th Anniversary Celebration. Standing with Mayor Ronnie Spiggle from left to right are Margaret O'Brien, Holly Cawthorne and the town's most elderly citizen Gladys Johnson (age 97). Johnson was given a town seal pin.

VIEWPOINT

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What did you think
of the 75th Anniversary
Celebration of the
Town of Appomattox?



MAGGIE LISKA

Gladstone

I'm glad to see those who
really show for those who
and I feel it needed more
and we appreciate the signs
represented.



VIRGINIA BONDURANT

Chirofoia

I enjoyed it, but was disappointed
at the same time, I think it could
have been better organized.



RUTH BAETZ

Stonewall

The next 20 years will be
the best of communities past and
you were disappointed in it.



THOMAS QUINN

Stonewall

I was disappointed in the
celebration of the 75th anniversary
of the town of Appomattox.



Active and Hollywood actress Deborah Adair smiles at being her Grand Marshall duties in the parade.



It was among the many entries into Saturday's parade Anniversary Celebration.



As part of the Town of Appomattox's 75th Anniversary Celebration, a special three-layer cake was prepared and eaten on Sunday afternoon during a special dedication. A slew of other activities was a part of the weekend celebration in Appomattox.

Town celebrates 75th anniversary

By **DEBORAH RYCHKOVA**

Contributing Editor

The town of Appomattox celebrated its 75th Anniversary of incorporation last weekend with an event-filled festival.

An Anniversary Parade kicked off the two-day celebration, followed by a program commemorating the town charter, held in Courthouse Square. The program featured local and national dignitaries and celebrities.

Appomattox Mayor Ronnie Spiggle welcomed the 400-plus crowd to the event.

"We have a proud heritage here in Appomattox and the 75th anniversary is a fine time to celebrate that heritage," he said.

Rev. Jerry Falwell was on hand to deliver a special invocation and benediction prayer for the town. He spoke of the historical contributions of the town and the "optimistic future it holds."

Hollywood actress and Appomattox native Deborah Adair delivered an impromptu speech wishing the town well.

"You have a lot to celebrate here and I hope everyone enjoys this weekend," she said.

Del. Watkins Abbitt introduced the keynote speaker,



Senior Miss Appomattox Kimberly Oxner smiles at the crowd.

General Samuel Wilson. Abbitt spoke of the many contributions Wilson has made to the area and to the country.

"Even after he retired from the military, Gen. Wilson has remained a vital force in the State of Virginia and in his

community," Abbitt said. "This year he retires from his position as President of Hampden-Sydney College -- but retirement is just not part of his mindset. He'll never really be retired."

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TOWN

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Wilson spoke of the importance of Appomattox's heritage to the world.

"You are much more than a southern town with a population of 1,707," he said. "You are a prominent name in every American history book. You cannot escape your name. Appomattox is larger than life, whether you want to be or not."

Appomattox is a symbol of a rich history and a beacon of hope for the future," he said.

A luncheon immediately followed the Courthouse Square ceremony and was attended by Falwell, Adair, Wilson and a surprise visitor, Fifth District United States Congressman Virgil Goode.

Goode said he was pleased to attend the anniversary celebration.

"I am happy to be here and join in this celebration," he said. "The people of Appomattox have good cause to celebrate their rich heritage."

The celebration continued on into Saturday and Sunday afternoon, including a festival-type atmosphere. Musical acts, food and craft booths and pony rides were on offer in the park.



Among the dignitaries for the 75th Anniversary were, from left to right, State Representative Watkins Abbitt Jr., Rev. Jerry Falwell, Hampden-Sydney President Samuel Wilson, Miss Appomattox Kimberly Jones, Congressman Virgil Goode and Mayor Ronnie Spiggle.



Miss Appomattox waves

to a large crowd of fans during the parade in the Old Virginia

Watkins M. Abbitt Sr. Park to be dedicated

The Watkins M. Abbitt Sr. Memorial Park will become a reality at the Town of Appomattox's 75th Anniversary Celebration this Saturday, June 3.

The family of the late Congressman Watkins M. Abbitt Sr. will make the presentation and donation of approximately one-half acre of land to the Town of Appomattox. The property, which lies between the Abbitt building on Court Street and the county library, will become a memorial park to the late congressman.

The Town of Appomattox has entered into a Main Street improvement project, and the memorial park will become a valuable part of this effort.

"The park would not only honor

Mr. Abbitt, but it would also provide an area for all people to enjoy life and stimulate fellowship throughout our community, which was a significant part of Mr. Abbitt's life," said Bill Burke, the chairman of a local committee that is forming plans for the park.

Abbitt's son, State Delegate Watkins M. Abbitt Jr., said, "The group thought it was a good idea to do the memorial park back there in my father's name. Certainly it would enhance the library and downtown. It's a really nice thing to do in memory of my father."

The committee of local citizens, family members and the Town of Appomattox will finalize plans for

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ABBITT

■ Continued from 1

the park. The details of those plans will be forthcoming to all citizens of the county in the next few months.

The Abbitt property has been used primarily for civic functions, such as the Railroad Festival and the Chamber of Commerce's Third Friday Celebration.

This Saturday's dedication of the land will take place during the town's morning program, which starts at 11:30 a.m. and ends around 1 p.m.

Watkins M. Abbitt died in July 1998. He was 90.

Appomattox Wayside

By BECK HUDSON

Appomattox citizens are looking forward to the coming weekend, it's the 75th Anniversary of the Town of Appomattox, and they're been busy making plans for the celebration.

For more, a whole lot more, about the upcoming weekend, the *Times-Virginian* has included a special 8-page section with articles that tell you about the history and the town and many other interesting topics.



Special cancellation at Appomattox

In honor of the 75th anniversary of the Town of Appomattox, the Appomattox Postmaster, Mrs. Ora McCoy, is offering a 75th anniversary cancellation for envelopes. This special stamp is only available for a short time, so be sure to mark this occasion with a stamp. Pictured above is Miss Appomattox, Kimberly Jones, left, and Appomattox Postmaster Ora McCoy.

Legion to hold flag disposal on Aug. 12

To the Editor:

The American Legion Post 104 was assigned the month of August to sponsor a program or programs to help celebrate the 75th anniversary of the incorporation of the Town of Appomattox which occurred on June 2, 2000.

The first program that Post 104 will present will be presented on Saturday, Aug. 12 at 9 p.m. in the Watkins M. Abbitt Memorial Park. This program will be a flag disposal ceremony sponsored by Post 104 being directed and presented by Post

16 from Lynchburg.

Anyone that has not had the opportunity to witness the proper disposal of "old glory" should make a special effort to attend this very patriotic ceremony.

There is no charge and the public is cordially invited. Remember the larger the audience the more impressive the ceremony will be. The entire ceremony will require about 30 minutes of your time. Hoping to see you on Aug. 12.

C.T. Moses, Jr.
American Legion Post
104,
Past Commander

August 16, 2000



Flag disposal ceremony held

Members of American Legion Post 104, Appomattox, and Post 16 Lynchburg presented a flag retirement program Saturday evening at 9 a.m. in the Appomattox Library parking lot. The structured and military style ceremony allowed local residents to discover how the American Flag is properly disposed. Worn, damaged or faded flags were submitted to the three highest ranking officers of the post for inspection. Once determined the flags to be unserviceable, they were to be honorably destroyed by burning, and replaced by new flags. The program, held after dark, was attended by many residents. The program, held after dark, was attended by many residents. Photo by Frank Brina



The organizing committee for the 75th anniversary of the Town of Appomattox has been busy making plans for the year-long celebration. Pictured above front row, left to right: Robbie Mullins, June Chalfant, Beverly Davidson and Betty Drinkard. Second row, left to right: C.T. Moses Jr., Tom Chalfant and Ronnie Spiggle. Committee members not pictured are: Debbie Powell, Ruth Webb, Marvin Mitchell, Alfred Jones, Mark and Sandra Landry, Jon Montgomery, Cheryl McDearmon, Nancy Dawson, Wanda Doss and Cheryl Rychkova.

Town of Appomattox prepares for 75th Anniversary this June

Each month will see special event to honor occasion

By CHERYL RYCHKOVA
Contributing Editor

Plans for celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Town of Appomattox are well under way, according to the anniversary's organizing committee.

The committee met last Thursday night at the town office to discuss events scheduled during the anniversary year 2000.

Each month a local organization will sponsor an event to celebrate the town's anniversary.

Appomattox County Schools will present a musical concert at 7 p.m. on Feb. 29 at Appomattox Elementary School Auditorium.

Students from the primary to high school levels will perform musical selections from the past 75 years.

On Feb. 24 the Appomattox County 4-H Club will hold their annual public speaking contest at the high school.

Extension Agent Laura McClenny said she expected some of the students to present speeches on the history of Appomattox.

On March 25, the Appomattox Historical Society will offer their contribution to the 75th anniversary. The society has plans to use the Courthouse Square for a day of interpretive history. Members will be stationed at the Confederate

statue, the Flood mausoleum and the Appomattox Historical Museum from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The society is currently seeking permission to have the courthouse itself open to visitors, where society members will provide an informative tour of the building, its architecture and the portraits in the courtroom before the building undergoes renovation.

In April, the Appomattox Woman's Club will hold a reception and program at the town office, where they will unveil portraits of all past and present mayors of Appomattox.

The Appomattox Garden Club will host a Flower Show on May 6 at the town office building.

The highlight of the year-long celebration will take place on the weekend of June 3-4. This date was chosen to coincide with the town's official founding date of June 2, 1925. *Staff report*

The celebration will feature a parade, a festival with craft and food vendors and other activities relating to the town's anniversary.

Hollywood actress and Appomattox native Debra Adair will serve as Grand Marshal for the parade. The Rev. Jerry Falwell will offer the invocation and benediction at the ceremony following the parade.

The anniversary committee is now in the process of selecting the main speaker for the June celebration.

The town also has plans to hold a Fourth of July celebration that will include a parade and free picnic for attendees. The picnic will be sponsored by the Appomattox chapters of the Masons, Eastern Star, the Grove and Woodmen of the World.

The American Legion will offer four different services honoring the anniversary during the month of August.

American Legion member C.T. Moses Jr. said the organization has ordered 5,000 commemorative coins in honor of the town's 75th anniversary. The coins will be available to the public for \$1 each.

The committee is seeking information on A.H. Clement, one of the founders of the town. Clement was the individual who presented the application for town status to the court in 1925. He was born in 1866, died in 1932 and is buried in Liberty Cemetery.

The committee would like to hear from anyone with information on Clement or his descendants.

The 75th Anniversary Committee welcomes community input. Anyone interested in volunteering assistance for the June celebration should contact June Chenault at 352-5608.

Appomattox Wayside

By BECK HUDSON

Anyone who has lived in the Town of Appomattox for 25 years or more, and who has lived here all of their lives, or know someone who has lived here all of their lives, should contact Beck Hudson at 352-5608 for more information.

The Times-Virginian staff is now in the process of organizing a special insert for the 75th Anniversary of the town of Appomattox.

Residents, clubs, organizations and other agencies are encouraged to submit old photos, stories or historical information concerning the history of the town.

Please help us to create an interesting look back at the town's history.

Open House in Courthouse Square

By CHRYSTYCHKOVA,
Contributing Editor

The Appomattox Historical Society will make its contribution to the 75th Anniversary of the Town of Appomattox with an open house in the courthouse square on Saturday, March 25, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The most unique event of the day will be tours of the courtroom, where society members will provide information on the architecture of the courthouse, history of the court and the judges who have served in the county.

The Appomattox County Historical Museum will be open for tours, and society members will be stationed at the Confederate statue, the Flood Mausoleum and the American Legion statue. The members will explain the history of each monument and answer visitors' questions.

Cloyd Flood, of Bumpers, Va. and a descendant of Congressman Henry "Hal" Flood, will be present at the event and available to answer visitors' questions about his ancestor.

Following the courthouse tour, visitors can enjoy refreshments provided by the historical society.

Society member Betty Drinkard said the open house is a good opportunity for county residents to learn more about local history.

"We hope the open house will help people become more aware of the significance of the courthouse to the history of Appomattox," she said.

Society member Jimmy Drinkard said the open house would provide residents with a final look at the original Confederate statue.

"In the near future the Confederate statue will be replaced with a new statue, so this is a good opportunity to have a look at the original and hear the story behind it," he said.

According to Featherston's History of Appomattox, the statue was unveiled on June 6, 1906, "amid an enthusiastic and cheering crowd."

On hand that day were five Confederate veterans: T.J. Stratton,

Dr. W.H. Abbitt, Major J.W. Flood, Capt. W.T. Johnson and J. Kirk Hannah.

Claude A. Swanson, then Governor of Virginia, was there as well. He praised the old Confederate soldiers for their valor and achievements from 1861-1865.

Tragedy struck the monument in 1953, when Hurricane Hazel tore through the area. During the storm the statue toppled from its pedestal, shattering into more than 100 pieces. After a painstaking reconstruction, the statue was returned to its place in 1957.

Over the years the restored statue has deteriorated to the point that the Appomattox camp of the SCV has ordered a new statue to replace it.

"We definitely will have a new statue sometime this year," Drinkard said.

The Times-Virginian is now in the process of organizing a special insert for the 75th Anniversary of the Town of Appomattox.

Residents, clubs, organizations and other agencies are encouraged to submit old photos, stories or historical information concerning the history of the town.

Garden Club sponsors event

May 6, 2002

The Appomattox Garden Club will sponsor a Standard Flower Show "Diamonds Are Forever" as a community celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Town of Appomattox. The Show will be held Saturday, May 6 at the Town Office on Linden Street. The show will be open to the public from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Club but the Horticulture Division is open to the public. Horticulture display rules will be provided at a later date. Entry cards may be picked up at the Times-Virginian office or from any Garden Club member.

The Design Division is open to members of the Appomattox Garden

The Appomattox Garden Club wants you! Please share your horticulture specimens. In the spirit of community, come out and enjoy the show as we all celebrate the Town's Anniversary.

Garden Club to sponsor show

The Appomattox Garden Club will sponsor a flower show at the Town Office on Saturday, May 6 from 3 to 5 p.m.

including roses, tulips, traditional and exotic perennials, azaleas, rhododendron, flowering trees and more.

The flower show is the Garden Club's contribution to the year-long celebration for the 75th Anniversary of the Town of Appomattox.

The public is invited to enter horticulture specimens. Displays and arrangements are open to garden club members only.

Many varieties of plants and flowers will be on display.

Garden Club member Estaline

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McCraw said anyone interested in submitting specimens for the horticulture section will need to bring them to the Appomattox Town Office on Linden Street on Friday, May 5, between 3 and 5 p.m.

An exhibitor may make more than one entry per class or subclass, if each is a different genus, species, variety/cultivar, type, size or color.

All horticulture specimens must be fresh plant material grown by the exhibitor. All specimens must be named, giving genus and species when available; common name may be added.

Bottles need to be furnished by the exhibitor. Wedging of cotton or styrofoam is permitted. Large woody specimens may be wedged with wood.

Cut branches must not be longer than 30 inches and have several nodes. Cut specimens should not have any foliage below the water line.

Garden Club hosts winning flower show

In celebration of the 75th Anniversary of the Town of Appomattox, the Appomattox Garden Club staged a Standard Flower Show at the Town Office on Saturday, May 6.

The show included 38 flower designs by members of the Garden Club and 102 exhibits of horticulture by club members and the public. The show revolved around the theme "Diamonds are Forever" to carry out the Diamond Anniversary of the Town.

The top award winner in horticulture was Clarine Mays who won the Award for Horticultural Excellence. Clarine Mays is not a member of the Garden Club but is an avid gardener who excels in her chosen activity.

There were four Awards of Merit given in horticulture. The winners were Janet Dance (Section I, Rose), Clarine Mays (Section II, late blooming bulbs), Janet Dance (Section III, perennials), and Margaret Shields (Section IV, flowering shrubs).

There were six blue ribbon winners in the design sections of the flower show. Section VI, Margaret Shields for "Facets of the Future," Maggie Moore for "Grandmother's Garden," and Myrna Clark for "Among my Souvenirs." Myrna Clark received the Designer's Choice Award from this section.

In Section VII, Jane Coleman won a blue ribbon for her design "Gems of May" and received the Petite Award which denotes best of

the blue ribbon winners for this section. Other blue ribbon winners in the miniature section were Myrna Clark for "Anniversary Reflections" and Anne Robinson for "Diamonds are Forever."

The Sweepstakes Award in horticulture was won by Janet Dance and Myrna Clark won for design. The Sweepstakes Award is based on a tabulation of blue ribbons won by any one individual in the given division.

These awards were decided by judges, who are accredited by the

Virginia Federation of Garden Clubs, Inc. and the National Council of State Garden Clubs, Inc. The method for choosing the winners of each ribbon and each special award is specified in the Handbook For Flower Shows, 1997 revised edition.

There were two educational exhibits. One celebrated the history of Appomattox including wonderful stories remembered by Virginia Babcock and many old photographs of the town. The other depicted the plans for the future that are already being implemented by the town as evident in the reworking of Main Street that is going on today.

The Appomattox Garden Club wishes to thank Mayor Ronnie Spiggle, Bobbie Mullins, Roxanne Paulette and Sheila Johnston for their cooperation in setting up the staging for the show. Being a part of the celebration of the 75th Anniversary was an exciting event not only for the Garden Club but also for everyone who loves gardening in Appomattox.

Town's 75th anniversary weeks away

By CHERYL RYCHKOVA
Contributing Editor

The 75th Anniversary celebration for the Town of Appomattox is less than two weeks away now, and organizers have a number of events scheduled for the weekend of June 3-4.

One unique event planned will be a musical concert featuring musicians Kim and Jimbo Cary. The concert is scheduled for 3 p.m., Sunday, June 4.

Kim and Jimbo play traditional music of Virginia and the British Isles on gourd banjo, mandolin, guitar, bouzouki and acoustic bass.

They play old time banjo tunes dating back before the Civil War and favorite fiddle tunes of Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry.

The Carys will have on display various folk instruments and the

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audience will be invited to play along on bones, spoons and gourds to a lively Appalachian hoedown.

The couple, who were selected as Touring Artists by the Virginia Commission for the Arts, travel throughout the state presenting programs of Virginia history and music of our immigrant ancestors in schools, libraries and festivals. They recently performed at the Kennedy Center and during an Easter festival at the White House.

Anniversary Committee Chairman June Chenault said there are many other activities and events are planned as well.

"We have an exciting weekend planned," she said. "There will be fun activities for all ages, plus this is an excellent opportunity to learn about and appreciate the heritage of Appomattox."

The celebration will begin the morning of Saturday, June 3 -- kicking off with a parade at 10:30 a.m. Appomattox native and Hollywood actress Deborah Adair will serve as Grand Marshall. The parade route had been planned to proceed down Main Street, but due to the ongoing downtown renovation project, the parade may have to take a different route, Chenault said.

"It's still possible we'll be able to go down Main Street, but if not, the parade will be re-routed down Lee Street, which is directly behind

Main Street," she said.

Chenault said parade entries are still needed.

"We're encouraging schools, church and civic groups to enter floats in the parade," she said. "There is no charge to participants, they just need to make an application to the recreation department."

Immediately following the parade, a brass ensemble will perform in the Courthouse Square.

Virginia State Delegate Watkins will then offer a welcome and introduce special guest

Hampden-Sydney College President Sam Wilson.

A re-enactment of the filing of the town charter will take place on the courthouse steps following the speeches.

Saturday afternoon will offer a variety of musical performances and a festival atmosphere with booths featuring crafts and food.

Souvenir programs (\$2) and t-shirts (\$7) will be available for sale as well.

Sunday activities will include more music, including Kim and Jimbo Cary, the cutting of the

time capsule to be opened on the town's 100th anniversary and an evening Vespers prayer service.

The time capsule will contain a history of the town, photographs of businesses, churches as well as aerial photos of the town and more.

Chenault said she hoped area residents would all come out and participate in the celebration.

"We have a wonderful community here in Appomattox, and this anniversary is a great time to celebrate our past, present and



Commemorative Coins

American Legion member C.T. Moses Jr. is pictured above presenting a special coin to Appomattox Mayor Ronnie Spiggle. 7 commemorative coins featuring the incorporation of the Town of Appomattox have arrived and will go on sale Thursday, May 18. Each coin features an encased 2000 penny. The coins can be purchased from members of the American Legion for \$1.

AWAG makes plans for town's celebration of 75th anniversary

MAY 24, '00

The Animal Interest Committee of the Citizen's Forum has been renamed "Animal Welfare Action Group (AWAG).

At the last meeting, plans were finalized for the Appomattox 75th Anniversary Celebration booth.

AWAG will be selling baked goods, dog treats and will be holding raffles as well as providing the public with information about pet care and safety.

Two committee members will be bringing their canine companions as good will ambassadors, one of which is a puppy from the Appomattox Animal Shelter.

The next AWAG meeting will be held at Jamerson Memorial Library on May 25, from 5-7 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

Entries for parade are needed

Entries for the 75th Anniversary of the Town of Appomattox Parade are needed. Civic groups, churches and schools are encouraged to

participate.

Anyone interested may call the Appomattox Recreation Department at 352-5996.

Appomattox's anniversary this weekend

The 75th anniversary celebration of the incorporation of the Town of Appomattox will take place this Saturday and Sunday, June 3-4 in Downtown Appomattox.

Celebrities slated to participate in the weekend-long festival include Appomattox native and Hollywood actress Deborah Adair, who will serve as the parade's Grand Marshal, the Rev. Dr. Jerry Falwell, who will deliver an invocation and benediction during Saturday's 75th anniversary service and keynote speaker Lieutenant General Samuel Wilson, Retired U.S. Army and President of Hampden-Sydney College.

The weekend celebration will



REV. JERRY FALWELL

offer a number of musical acts and other entertainment, food and craft booths, a reenactment of the 1925 application of the town charter, a birthday cake-cutting ceremony,



DEBORAH ADAIR

burial of a time capsule, a vespers service and much more.

The staff of the *Times-Virginian* has prepared a special anniversary supplement inside this



LT. GEN. SAMUEL WILSON

week's issue, featuring stories and pictures dealing with the history of the Town of Appomattox.

The public is invited to the weekend's activities.

Elise, Chairman of the Appomattox Animal Welfare Association (AWAG), said her organization's booth did very well, saying she considered to be a big success.

"We sold a number of baked goods and t-shirts and raffled off a number of items," she said. "However, we were disappointed in the lack of people attending the celebration and believe it could have been supported better by the community."

Elise Chenault, the 75th Anniversary Committee Chairman said she felt the weekend was a success.

"I was very pleased with how everything went," she said. "Our

Saturday morning program was well-attended and everything went smoothly. I think everyone involved had a great time."

Chenault said it was important to note that the anniversary weekend was not meant to be in competition with the Railroad Festival.

"This was a one-time only celebration and festival," she continued. "Naturally, we would have liked to have seen more people come out and participate, but we accomplished what we set out to do -- honor the heritage of our town -- and I believe we were very successful at achieving that goal."

AWAG makes plans for town's celebration of 75th anniversary

The Animal Welfare Action Group (AWAG) will be having a fundraising/educational booth at the 75th Anniversary of the Town of Appomattox being held on Saturday and Sunday, June 3-4.

The booth will be located in the corner of the library parking lot. Information regarding the spaying and neutering of cats and dogs will be distributed. Rescued "pet ambassadors" will be present.

T-shirts, homemade baked goods and ice-cold soft drinks will be on sale. The first 50 purchasers of any item will also receive a "Prevent a Litter" inside car doorbag from the Humane Society of the United States.

A raffle will be held which includes the following prizes: Four certificates valued at \$50 each, good towards professional veterinary services donated by

Appomattox Animal Hospital, two certificates valued at \$25 each, good toward professional veterinary services donated by Appomattox Animal Hospital; professional photographic pet portrait donated by School Pictures; an original oil painting donated by Petr Liska; cat and dog Beanie Babies donated by Country Charm; a large decorative garden flag donated by Jefferson Galleries; an Apple Crisp Cake (from an heirloom family recipe) donated by Shirley Eye; two indoor pet beds donated by a committee member; and a gift basket from Windy Hill Herbs.

Raffle tickets are \$1 and can be purchased at the festival or in advance from committee members. Drawings will be held in the evening on June 4th and you do not need to be present to win.

Book provided much trivia info

Much of the "Appomattox Trivia" featured in last weeks' 75th Anniversary supplement to the *Times-Virginian* was obtained from Thomas Terry's *Appomattox County -- A Pictorial History*.

Terry's book features a lively, entertaining and detailed history of the county and town, and includes a number of rare photographs.

Copies of the book may be purchased at the *Times-Virginian* office for \$33.