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Chronology Of Main Local Events In 1947

Major local events which took place locally during the past year are provided below in chronological order for reference:

JANUARY

1—Newport News hard beverage buyers discarded ration books in making purchases for first time since war period; announced port of Newport News shipped more livestock overseas than any other port has ever transported by sea for relief purposes in history; Junius E. West, former lieutenant governor of Virginia, died at Elizabeth Buxton hospital.

2—Newport News Woman's club board of governors approves of increased pay for teachers in Virginia; Mrs. Sally Cannon, national president of the VFW auxiliary, greeted in Newport News by auxiliary officials from over Virginia.

3—Charles M. Lankford Jr., Virginia fisheries commissioner, denied reports by O. A. Boxom, Battery Park, chairman of advisory group of Virginia fisheries laboratory, that the commission made use of funds for the laboratory for other purposes.

4—Alan M. Graff named president of Brighton Hotel company, Atlantic City, N. J., following lease of beach property by group of hotel owners in transaction involving $2,000,000; labor conciliator and union international vice-president came here for negotiations between Citizens Rapid Transit company and operators and maintenance employes, seeking pay increase.

6—G. Alvin Massenburg, Hampton, unanimously elected speaker of Virginia house of delegates, succeeding Thomas B. Stanley, Henry, who resigned; city council decides to use parking meter funds to buy property to provide off-street parking.

7—A statement issued by President J. B. Woodward Jr., Newport News, placed yard work level above pre-war enrollment.

8—Shipyard announces acquisition of approximately one half block of real estate on 42nd St., between Huntington and Virginia Aves., for location of addition to foundry; Comdr. Henry V. Hooper, USNR, was named commanding officer for Peninsula's Organized Surface division ND 5-16, D. R.; Johnson selected as outstanding young man for 1946 by Junior Chamber of Commerce; G. Alvin Massenburg, speaker of Virginia house, honored by observance of "Massenburg Day" at a banquet in Richmond attended by dignitaries.

9—Bureau of reclamation awards Newport News shipyard contract for 11,300-horsepower turbine for Marys Lake Power plant, Colorado, contract price being $164,604; talks between representatives of the Citizens Rapid Transit company and representatives of bus operators and maintenance employes fail to produce results and end; ground was broken for start of Greek Orthodox church at 26th St. and West Ave.

10—Bill put in legislative hopper to allow Virginia fisheries commission to buy land and build an office structure here.

11—Civil aeronautics administration allocates $140,000 for work on airport at Camp Patrick Henry; Guilford Leroy Martin, 21, Newport News police officer, kills himself when his wife jokingly threatens to leave him.

12—W. Bruce Wood, Hampton, elected president of Peninsula council of American Legion.

13—Shipyard officials question economic advisability of providing a floating dry dock at Fort Eustis to service the idle fleet; curb sale of cars by persons not licensed to be investigated here.

14—H. W. Fowler buys control of St. Dennis corporation; Charles E. Mason named president of Newport News Real Estate and Insurance exchange; plans to broaden scope of Peninsula Industrial committee discussed at meeting of body; Newport News school board plans revision of salary scale upward for teachers.

15—Hampton Roads sanitation commission authorizes negotiated contract with O. W. Lockwood, Hampton, low bidder at $850,000 for disposal plant at Newport News municipal harbor.

16—Lt. Herbert G. Smith, USMC, honored posthumously for bravery in combat in Iwo Jima, including presentation of Silver Star, Bronze Star, and Presidential citation to his parents, Judge and Mrs. Herbert G. Smith; NLRB denies petition of AFL, charging four fish industry concerns of the Peninsula with having violated the fair labor practices act.

17—Station WGH installing newest model transmitter; E. C. Tew and J. F. VanHoy dismissed from Warwick police force for striking prisoners during questioning of them in Denbigh jail.

18—Local bank officials announce gain of $4,468,577 in loans during 1946 over 1945; Lower Peninsula Planning commission approves establishment of $639,000 yacht basin at Salters Creek, next to Anderson park.

19—Police records show total of 23,605 arrests during 1946.

20—Mrs. Vaughan Mackey, 343 Chesapeake Ave., reports being attacked and dragged by pack of vicious dogs; 59-mile-per-hour gale hits Peninsula, but damage slight.

21—Elizabeth City county gets $139,453 in State and federal funds for secondary road system for next fiscal year; L. B. Peterson appointed shipyard office service manager; milk produced on a Peninsula dairy farm temporarily barred from Fort Monroe.

22—Peninsula Industrial committee votes to spend sum not to exceed $60,000 to erect building for new plant here; annual 1946 fire report reveals $1,780 net fire loss here.

23—Harry (Hoss) Harmon resigns as football coach at Newport News high school, being succeeded by Lou Plummer; Newport News-Hampton high schools sign two-year football contract, to resume relations on gridiron; council decides to consider equality of assessments of property and the general assessment picture at meeting Feb. 3; council votes pay boost for firemen, police and day laborers in city employ; announced C. and O. terminals here lead C. and O. in safety third time in 4 years.

25—Six inmates escape from city jail after beating guard; believed roaming city.

26—Two of six who escaped jail captured by sentry at Fort Eustis; SS Santa Rosa leaves shipyard for New York after conversion work completed.

27—Council votes for installation of 110 intermediate street lights on side streets where darkness makes travel a hazard.

28—Virginia fisheries commission votes to provide full-time patrol boat in York river area.

29—A. L. Bivins and Sidney Banks seek injunction to prevent L. U. Noland from purchasing Chamberlin hotel in his name alone.

30—Residents of Ferguson Park announce plan seeking mutual purchase and maintenance of that property for future use by them. Roger V. Terry named president of Newport News-Warwick chapter of Red Cross.

FEBRUARY

1. A 20-year-old record of the C. & O. railroad here was broken in January when 1,127,132 tons of coal were loaded at the piers. The Peninsula naval reserve armory on Essex St. was dedicated with Comdr. Henry Bird Hooper as commanding officer.

2. G. Franklin Lenz, president of the Citizens Marine Jefferson bank, died of a cerebral hemorrhage at the home of friends in Richmond.

3. Herman W. Moore, manager of a taxicab company, died in Williamsburg of injuries suffered when a cab he was returning from Providence Forge overturned. The cab had been stolen the night before. Raymond Laurence, Negro, 29, was indicted by federal grand jury here for unlawful flight to avoid prosecution after the death here of Patrolman Charles N. Doughty.

4. The shipyard denied the assertion in city council of J. L. Morewitz who had intimated the board of assessors had been approached with a view toward lowering the yard's city taxes.

5. Mayor R. Cowles Taylor was eleected president of the CMJ bank to succeed J. Franklin Lenz.

6. Edward G. Burcher, head of the city juvenile department, submitted his resignation to Police Chief J. M. Peach, who had been given administrative control of the department.

7. The case of Raymond Laurence, docketed to begin in corporation court, was continued to the March term.

8. Rep. S. Otis Bland was told by department of interior cost of repair of the Yorktown Victory monument probably would run from $50,000 to $100,000.

9. There were 14 ships undergoing repairs in the shipyard, with five more expected momentarily.

10. Colgate W. Darden, ex-governor, was installed as chancellor of the College of William and Mary. Lord Inverchapel was principal speaker at the ceremony. The C. & O. asked city council to abandon 18th St. from River Rd. to Warwick Ave.

11. Charter was granted by the State corporation commission to Eastern Shore, Southside railroad corporation, starting near Seaford and extending across the James river to Franklin. Judge Robert N. Pollard, senior judge of the U. S. district for eastern Virginia, resigned.

12. Charles C. Jett was chosen to head the slate of new officers chosen by the board of directors of the Retail Merchants association.

13. Laros Textiles company of Bethlehem, Pa., manufacturers of women's underclothing, to locate in Hampton armory. C. & O. ready to offer roadway over its property from 4th St. into River Rd. in event its request to the city for the abandonment of a portion of 18th St. was approved. Mark J. Stockton was named roll call chairman of the Newport News-Warwick Red Cross campaign, whose goal was $50,000.

14. George A. Bentley was again picked to lead the Peninsula Industrial commisison's campaign to find new industries and was to be reappointed in May.

15. One hundred fifty-six Boys' club members named to go on C. & O. tour to Detroit and return which was scheduled to start Feb. 18.

16. Anne Wythe hall girls dormitory in Elizabeth City county, to close in March.

17. March 18 agreed on as date of start of arbitration sessions between the CRT bus lines and the union drivers and maintenance men. City council ordered abandonment of 18th St. from River Rd. to Warwick Ave., with C. & O. to split cost of paving Warwick Ave. from 18th to 12th Sts.

18. Bids for the contriction by PIC of a plant to house a possible new industry were rejected as too high.

19. Winter hits Lower Peninsula with temperature in 20's and slight snow.

20. Wythe hall girl-residents protest to President Truman projected closing of the dormitory April 30. State Senator L. U. Noland announced for reelection.

21. Some 156 members of the Boys' club returned from a long C. & O. tour to Detroit and Canada.

23. Biggest snow of winter hits area, but roads remained open to traffic.

25. Samuel H. Plummer, president of the First National bank, was chosen to receive the Eagles' service award for February. L. U. Noland to be given possession of the Hotel Chamberlin by WAA.

26. Mrs. R. Cowles Taylor to be matron-of-honor to Mrs. Homer L. Ferguson, who will christen heavy cruiser Newport News March 6. Fenton F. Finch, one-time Newport News business tycoon, died in Richmond.

27. The Civil Aeronautics authority approved the request of the Peninsula Airport commission for 900 acres of land at Camp Patrick Henry.

28. The Civilian Production administration approved revised plans for a school in Stuart Gardens to replace Bankhead Magruder school. Desk Sergeant Earl W. Hill was appointed senior juvenile officer.

MARCH

1. Desk Sgt. Earl W. Hill named head of city juvenile department effective April 1; Col. George C. Stewart, Fort Eustis commandant, named brigadier general.

3. Annual Red Cross drive for Newport News-Warwick county chapter opens with $50,000 goal; Eli I. Schreiberg takes over as Warwick county superintendent of public welfare; city council makes illegal any failure to pay fare in bus, jitney or other for-hire cars.

4. Charles E. Enfield accepts post as managing director of Retail Merchants association of Newport News.

6. Mrs. Homer L. Ferguson christens 17,000 ten heavy cruiser Newport News at launching in plant of Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company.

7. Five-inch snowfall, heaviest of winter season, blankets Peninsula.

8. 1,113 register, despite weather conditions, on first day of Peninsula male labor survey.

10. Newport News city council agrees to protest lowered assessment on property of Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company; council authorizes sale of about three acres of land in boat harbor tract for proposed new industry to locate here.

11—System of annual promotion for city schools, policy for retirement of teachers and supervisory personnel over 65 years of age approved by city school board.

12—Peninsula Industrial committee adopts resolution to ask acquisition of USO building at Hampton for industrial purposes by Hampton city council; Warwick county high school board purchases approximately five acres of land adjacent to Warwick high school to enlarge athletic facilities.

13—Ferguson Park advisory board claims report and recommendation of housing committee of Lower Peninsula Planning commission that park housing units ultimately be removed for private housing based on "conclusions drawn in error;" Hampton city council rejects PIC request for acquisition of USO for industrial use, city plans to use structure for recreational purposes.

14—Newport News shipbuilding and Dry Dock company reports net profit of $5,198,233 for 1946; Peninsula Association of Commerce gets plans underway for poll of area on adoption of daylight saving time for summer.

17—George Walker Pierce announces retirement effective April 1 from firm of Furness, Withy and Co. after 55 years on local waterfront; three viewers named by city council to look over 18th St. on proposed street closing.

18-SS Heredia, second of three sister ships built for United Fruit company by local shipyards, undergoes exacting sea trians; W. Horace Blanchard, Newport News, and Charles King, Hampton, rescued adrift at sea 11 days without food and water off Florida coast, rescued dramatically in stormy Gulf of Mexico.

19-Employes of local shipyard exceed quota in Red Cross drive; announce huge old hanger for lighter than air craft, once home of dirigible Roma, to be disposed of; board of arbitration grants five-cent hour pay raise "across the board" to Citizens Rapid Transit company employes following hearings.

20-Announce appointment of Detective Lt. E. B. Boswell as captain in uniformed division, city police, after resignation of Capt. E. H. Burnham; Detective Sgt. H. F. Dillingham promoted to detective lieutenant; shipyard donates $10,000 to Red Cross, bringing fund to $30,482.-78; Col. Richard Watson Copeland, native of Fox Hill, named director of State parole board and chairman of State board of pardons and reprieves; representatives of federal, State, local groups confer in Norfolk on oil pollution problem; shipyard opposes change to daylight saving time here except on Statewide basis and even then with qualifications protest of Ferguson Park advisory board on proposed ultimate removal of park housing units read to Lower Peninsula Planning commission, referred to its housing committee.

21. Announce organization of Peninsula Negro Junior Chamber of Commerce, first such group in State; SS Heredia delivered to United Fruit company by shipyard.

23. Poll conducted by Peninsula Association of Commerce shows daylight saving time favored.

24. City council votes against adoption of daylight saving time; council, local merchants reach compromise on license ordinance tax on businesses; announce some materials used in building of boats and truck bodies of Newport News plant of Gar Wood industries being moved to other plants of company.

25. Strong winds blow two vessels aground off 25th St., other ships blown toward shore but maneuver out of danger; Virginia Engineering company submits low base bid of $204,750 for construction of new Bankhead Magruder school.

27. Plymouth Victory, last vessel to be loaded in UNRRA stock project here, departs for Shanghai, hCina; Civilian Production administration notifies PIC of approval of plans for construction of industrial plant building in Warwick county; Hampton city council hears arguments on use for USO, defers action; Hampton council also turns thumbs down on daylight saving time adoption.

28. Newport News-Warwick county chapter of Red Cross goes over top in campaign, fund at $50,211.42; Raymond Laurence, Negro charged with murder of Patrolman Charles N. Doughty, sentenced to die in electric chair June 20; representatives of Peninsula sub-divisions agree to seek public sentiment on floating of airport bond issue.

31. Project office of Aberdeen Gardens, federal housing project for Negroes, closes offices.

APRIL

1—Daily Press announces $5,000,-000 expansion program of C. and O. Railway company for enlarging yards and new coal pier; June 3 set as date for vote in Newport News, Hampton, Warwick, York, Phoebus and Elizabeth City county on proposed $1,000,000 bond issue for Peninsula airport; city council approves Magruder, Stuart Garden school project to cost over $300,000.

2—Twenty-two senior officers of police department sworn in as juvenile officers under new setup; George Walker Pierce to retire after 55 years service with Furness, Withy and Co., steamship line; Governor Tuck says State, tired of federal delay, will ask bids July 3 for bridge across York river; Charles E. Enfield named manager of Newport News Retail Merchants association; estate of late Fenton F. Finch, valued at $300,000, left to charity; 130 candidates for graduation in June from Warwick county high school.

3—To daylight save or not daylight save is the question now, with workers conducting poll to see if they want the clocks turned back; federal public housing authority announces it has no plans to sell Ferguson Park to tenants on mutual ownership or any other plan; Dr. Lee Todd, city health officer, levels his sanitary guns on bacteria in drug store and other food dispensing places with fountains; J. Speed Gray, Cecil Gray, James C. Baker Jr., named assistant superintendents, C. Vernon Cowan, trainmaster, and L. N. Phillips, assistant trainmaster of the C. and O. Railway company terminals here;

4—Machinery being removed from Gar Wood plant as indication plant will not resume operations here, despite officials' previous statements;

7—Newport News' share of Peninsula bond issue for airport set at $307,000 of total of $550,000; thousands see parade of military units from Fort Eustis and Langley Field in observance of army day;

9—Protest against reduction in assessment of Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co. resulting in $60,000 loss in revenue to city to be heard April 10 by board of equalization and review;

10—Homer L. Ferguson, board chairman, and other directors reelected as directors of shipyard company; city council denies it has any right to remove bridge at foot of West Ave. on 23rd St., stating structure still owned by U. S. government; Elizabeth City county seeks have title of Hampton high school transferred from city of Hampton to the county; Hunt crab meal factory on Rip Rap Rd. destroyed by fire; Roy D. Long named president of Peninsula Shipbuilders association.

11—Delegate Stanley Garner opposes city stadium site, suggests 39th St. superhighway in county; three Warwick sanitary districts consolidated into one "District A" by court order;

12—Raymond Laurence, 29-year-old Negro under sentence of death for murder of Police Officer C. N. Doughty, must serve two-day jail sentence in Richmond jail on federal conviction of flight to avoid prosecution.

13—James V. Bickford, until recently mayor of Hampton, dies; Veterans of Foreign Wars post here elects all War two veterans as officers; Mrs. I. A. Spigel dies at 57; Mrs. Sarah Jane Barnes, 96, believed oldest resident of Elizabeth City county, dies.

14—Rental increases ordered by U. S. for Ferguson Park, Langley View and College Courts; city announces plan for 7,500-seat stadium subject to bond issue; Dorsey Pleasants and Mrs. John Kritzer reappointed members of Newport News school board; C. and O. terminal here wins company's safety award.

15—Two Panamanian ship owners fined $1,000 for dumping oil waste in Hampton Roads; damage to C. and O. coal pier by fire put at $1,000,000.

16—A. T. Lowmaster, executive vice president of C. and O. Railway Co., says overnight sleeper from Newport News to New York city to be tried.

17—Marshall B. King resigns as resident engineer here for State highway commission.

18—Radio Station WGH granted permission to raise wattage to 5,000 from 250.

19—18th St. from Warwick Ave. to River Rd., closed as public thoroughfare, land being given C. and O. Railway company in return for assumption of half cost of paving section of Warwick Ave.

20—April 26 set as date for Grace liner SS Santa Paula to leave shipyard for New York.

21—Newport News Junior Woman's club receives second "citizenship in action" awards of the Richmond News Leader; Mrs. Elizabeth Pearson Caldwell, 92, oldest member of Second Presbyterian church, dies.

22—H. A. Fennell of Sussex-Hampton named district engineer of highway commission to succeed Marshall B. King, resigned; budget slash to close Hampton office of the Fisheries commission; F. O. Blechman elected president Newport News Rotary club.

23—Warwick hotel sold by Old Dominion Land Co. to N. S. Cutler and W. H. Forrest; Newport News Dodgers baseball team scheduled to open Piedmont league season tonight against Richmond here.

24—Sheriff R. Bickford Curtis of Warwick county announces candidacy for reelection.

25—Mayor R. Cowles Taylor endorses efforts of C. C. Jett, president of Retail Merchants association, to cut back prices.

26—Dr. Nelson Marshall, University of North Carolina, named director of the Virginia Fisheries laboratory to succeed Dr. Curtis L. Newcombe, resigned.

27—F. Lee Ford, local attorney, announces candidacy for Democratic nomination for house of delegates to represent Newport News.

28—Central Labor union asks city council appoint committee to investigate prices, council indicating it has no authority and couldn't do anything about it anyway.

29—C. and O. Railway Co. negotiating with U. S. for purchase of West Ave. bridge; way cleared to convert old Camp Patrick Henry land to Peninsula Airport commission.

30—Stanley S. Garner files necessary papers in Hampton for candidacy for State senate from 33rd district, to oppose State Senator L. U. Noland who will formally announce for reelection soon.

MAY

1. Lewis A. McMurran announced his candidacy for nomination on the Democratic ticket for the house of delegates to become the first politico in this area to toss his hat in the ring for the coming primary Aug. 5.

2. Reports today revealed that building in Newport News took an appreciable upswing during the preceding month with construction totaling $79,117 being started or completed during the 30-day period.

3. Merchants pledged fullest cooperation toward finding a solution to the present price problem in Newport News, representatives of the Retail Merchants association said in a radio program over station WGH.

4. Coal, grain and grain products, and unmanufactured tobacco topped the exports for Hampton Roads and residue fuel oil was the leading import during the winter months, figures released today by the Hampton Roads Maritime association have revealed.

5. The city council adopted a resolution to extend 16th St., from Marshall Ave. to Jefferson Ave., in conjunction with the State highway department.

6. The SS Mepapan, last of three United Fruit Steamship corporation vessels constructed by the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company, went smoothly through her paces in a test run described as nearly perfect.

7. Work is to start immediately at the Newport News shipyards on two tugs for the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway company, the contract for $788,000 having been received and approved.

8. A 14-cents-per-hour "across the board" pay increase for employes included in the bargaining unit at the Newport News shipyards were asked in contract negotiations which opened today between management and representatives of the Peninsula Shipbuilders' association.

9. Charles K. Hutchens, incumbent, officially qualified for the Democratic primary Aug. 5 for the Virginia house of delegates from Newport News today by filing the necessary papers with Paul E. Harrell, chairman of the local Democratic committee.

10. Army and navy personnel housed in public housing projects must pay the same rent now as civilians, Alan C. Ebert, general housing manager for Langley View homes, said today in answering a complaint filed by a soldier that his rent had been nearly doubled from $20 to $39 monthly.

11. A number of residents announced that they intended to appear at today's meeting of the Newport News city council to protest changes in the routings of the Citizens Rapid Transit company insofar as they affect the county.

12. Hopes that the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway company would provide pullman service between this city and New York city were shattered today by a letter from A. T. Lowmaster, executive vice president of the railroad.

13. Public and private construction in Lower Peninsula areas involving the use of concrete and cement has been brought to a virtual standstill because of the strike of cement workers in Norfolk.

14. Climaxing more than 11 months of negotiations, the Peninsula Airport commission today acquired possession of a tract of 924 acres at Camp Patrick Henry, to serve as the site of the proposed Peninsula airport.

15. Purchase of the armor shop, a war-time naval installation in the Newport News shipbuilding yards, at a cost of $135,000 from the United States government, was announced today by shipyard officials.

16. Warwick county school board approved the purchase of 5.67 additional acres of land adjacent to the Warwick high school to be used in expanding the school building and for athletic field facilities.

17. Based on estimates of competent authorities, an airport such as being contemplated on the Lower Peninsula could show an excess revenue over expenses each year of $7,500, H. K. Peebles, chairman of the Peninsula's airport commission, said today.

18. Four men fishing in the James river off the local shipyard had a narrow escape today when their outboard motorboat capsized but they were saved by the quick work of two other fishing parties.

19. Charged with striking a 17-year-old boy, a former student at the Warwick county high school, William Formicelli, a teacher in the school, was tried today before Trial Justice W. E. Hogge at Denbigh on a charge of simple assault. No decision was rendered.

20. Unless the Palestine problem, involving Jews and Arabs and the failure of the British government to keep its promise to make Palestine a homeland for the Jews, is solved the United States and the world may find themselves in another war which will make all previous ones look like lawn parties, U. S. Senator Owen Brewster of Maine said here today in an address before the Peninsula institute of public affairs.

21. Newport News becomes the home port for destroyer flotilla No. 2, it was announced today by the U. S. navy. This means, among other things, that there will be an increase of naval and enlisted men in the city.

22. Another move was made today by the local OPA rent director's office to forestall any increased rents in Ferguson Park, Langley View and College Courts, it was learned.

23. With negotiations continuing, agreements were reached today on only a few minor changes in the contract between the management of the Newport News shipyard and the Peninsula Shipbuilders' association, it was announced by E. H. Petterson, business manager of the PSA.

24. A favorable vote for the airport bond issued June 3 "will mean the establishment of a great industry in the community which, in years to come, will pay large dividends to local citizens," State Senator Lloyd U. Noland said today.

25. The city council today decided to hold a special session June 9 to study complaints made by North End residents about the large amounts of smoke and coal dust that fills the air in this district.

26. It took the Warwick county police just one hour to recover $1,-420.24 in cash and some checks which had been removed from the glove compartment of a Mallory Dairy truck. The quick acting county police swooped down on the thieves and recovered the money for the owner within 60 minutes after the crime had been committed.

27. Early action to prevent mental disorders from becoming serious was urged today by Dr. Joseph E. Barrett, mental hygiene commissioner for Virginia, in an address before a luncheon meeting of this city's leading civic and business leaders.

28. A Newport News delegation protested to federal officials in Washington today over proposed rent increases for the government-built Ferguson Park housing development.

29. The present contract between the Newport News shipyard and the Peninsula Shipbuilders' association, scheduled to expire June 2, has been extended another 30 days, while contract negotiations continue.

30. Tribute was paid today to the honored dead of the Peninsula and Newport News who lost their lives in the wars of America as Peninsula citizens gathered to participate in the annual Memorial day exercises.

JUNE

1. Prominent Lower Peninsula civic leaders and business men called on local citizens to approve the proposed airport bond issue "decisively" if this area is to keep pace with the changing world.

2. This was the 34th anniversary of the most serious and costly school blaze in the history of Newport News. The fire caused damage estimated at $2,000 but no students were injured as the flames swept through the high school.

3. The city council accepted a "compromise" agreement whereby the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company's 58-acre holdings in the north end of the yard will be assessed at $9,800 per acre rather than $1,000 per acre as of the board of accessors.

4. The airport bond issue was voted in by the slender margin of one vote, the closest polling in the history of this area. The issued was approved by Newport News, Warwick, Hampton and carried by a single ballot in Elizabeth City county.

5. The members of the Warwick county board of supervisors, Mrs. Kathryn M. Ware, Stanley; Hugh G. Holloway, Denbigh; and George T. Abernathy, Newport; officially filed for reelection subject to the primary Aug. 4. Rent increases were ordered for housing units at Ferguson Park, Langley View and College Courts.

6. A stringent order by City Manager J. C. Biggins prohibited city employes from using official city automobiles for private purposes after they have completed their day's work. Today was the last day for anyone who wishes to file a formal candidacy for a nomination in the Democratic primary Aug. 3.

7. Statistics released by the local branch of the Virginia State employment service revealed that conditions in the local labor market have shown marked improvement in recent months. The war department rejected bids on five large Fort Eustis projects. The bids involved more than two and one-half million dollars.

8. Capt. W. F. Peach, chief of the detective bureau, blasted unlicensed private detectives who, he said, were accepting retainers for investigations seldom completed and sometimes never even undertaken.

9. Plans neared completion for the selling of timber to clear the way for the construction of a commercial airport at Camp Patrick Henry. C. K. Hutchens, vice president of the Tidewater Automobile association called for additional precautions on the part of drivers now that city schools have closed and more children are in the streets and playgrounds.

10. "Patton Airport" and "Hampton Airport" were the latest suggestions as names for the new commercial airport to be constructed on the site of Camp Patrick Henry. Negotiations began between the Citizens Rapid Transit company and union officials on the signing of a new contract effective July 1.

11. The Peninsula Industrial commission authorized the purchase of a 25 acre tract in Copeland Park from the government for future industrial development.

12. Terms of a proposed lease of a city stadium, if and when such a project is approved by the voters, were approved by city council at a special meeting. The council also authorized the city attorney to ask the judge of corporation court to set the day of the bond election for Aug. 5.

13. It was announced today that carpenters affiliated with local No. 396 of the Carpenter's union here either walked off or were "pulled" off four jobs during the past week. Members of the Citizens Rapid Transit company union voted to accept the new contract drawn up in company-union negotiations.

14. The building fund campaign for the Newport News Girl's club had netted $2,100 thus far, the Junior Woman's club, sponsors of the drive, announced today. Warnings were issued all automobile drivers to check their drivers permits in order that they will not be violating the law when they have expired.

15. Richard Walter "Dick" West, 74, long-time leader in civic and lodge circles here and an outstanding figure on the Newport News political scene for more than a quarter of a century died at his home today after an illness of several months.

16. One hundred acres of land on Route 168 was given to the County of Warwick by the Mariner's museum for park purposes. City Manager J. C. Biggins called on the Citizens Rapid Transit company to explain the over-loading of city buses.

17. Thick oil, dumped by merchant ships into the James river, has virtually halted fishing and swimming in the river and resulted in bitter complaints by fishermen against this illegal practice.

18. Attorney F. Lee Ford declared that since the shipyard and the city have both agreed that the 1946 assessment of the property of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company is in error the board of review and equalization should return to the 1942 assessment.

19. The Warwick county Democratic committee placed its seal of approval on 13 candidates to carry the party standard in the Aug. 3 primaries.

20. The American Association of Port Authorities was asked to aid in combatting the oil pollution problem in the James river. The Newport News Girl's club fund campaign was bogged down with pledges totaling $7,000, only one-half the amount needed, being received thus far.

21. Plans were laid for a radio forum to be broadcast over station WGH to explain the Boy Scout movement on the Lower Peninsula to the radio audience.

22. It was announced today that six additional ships will undergo repair work in the local shipyard. At the present time seven ships are undergoing hull repair and nine craft are being converted at the yard.

23. The city announced its intention to purchase six lots and the building thereon located between Washington Ave., and West Ave., on the south side of 29th St., for $34,000. The lots will be used for public parking lot.

24. Authorization to go ahead with the entire Stuart Gardens school project has been received by the Newport News school board from the facilities review committee of the office of the housing expediter in Washington.

25. The Yorktown bridge controversy ended with navy acquiescence to a low-level span, which the State highway commission forthwith ordered planned for as speedy construction as possible.

26. Representing the fourth U. S. army transport to be assigned to the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company for conversion for passenger service, the yard was notified today that it had been awarded the contract on the Admiral W. L. Capps.

27. Mayor R. Cowles Taylor of Newport News endorsed the formation of an all-over disaster program for the Hampton Roads area. The Peninsula Junior Chamber of Commerce held its annual banquet at the Hotel Chamberlin and installed David Blalock as president for the coming year.

28. Meeting requirements on a nation-wide basis of the federal public housing authority letters were mailed to certain residents of Harbor Homes notifying them that after a given time they will have to seek other living quarters because they are not eligible under their present income to remain in the Harbor homes facilities.

29. Admiral J. F. Farley, commandant of the U. S. Coast Guard, said today that he believes the oil pollution violation in Hampton Roads will be ended in the near future. The statement was made in a letter to S. Otis Bland, representative from this district.

JULY

1—Dr. Alma Hull Wilcox, civic and social leader of Newport News, dies at Atlantic City from injuries received in a fall. Three railroad coal dumpings in Hampton Roads area reached 3,377,340 tons during June.

2—Bill of sale and deed to the Chamberlin hotel, purchased by L. U. Noland of Newport News, is delivered to Charles J. Blair Jr., deputy zone administrator of real property disposal, war assets administration, Richmond. William Formichelli, Warwick high school faculty member, appeals to circuit court after being found guilty of slapping a student on school grounds. Hampton and Elizabeth City county sign contract providing for Hampton fire department to give protection to a portion of Chesapeake district.

3—Notification is received that State highway commission has designed a portion of 16th St. as primary State highway making possible State funds of $80,000 for improvements.

4—Newport News and nearby communities observe Fourth of July with virtually all business establishments closed.

5—Capt. Milton Dennis Owens, 47, of Hampton, prominent Virginia pilot on Hampton Roads, dies at home in Hampton.

7—Rear Adm. N. L. Rawlings, retiring assistant chief of the bureau of naval shipyards, joins Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company as special representative. Emmanuel Episcopal church at Phoebus celebrates its 50th anniversary with the Rt. Rev. William A. Brown, Virginia bishop as speaker. Jack Hamilton of Newport News wins State Virginia amateur golf championship at Lynchburg.

8—Lt. Comdr. Raymond B. Bottom, president of the Daily Press, Inc., is named chairman of a committee for "Freedom of the Press Night," Aug. 1, at "The Common Glory," by Gov. William Tuck. H. C. Peterson is elected commander of American Legion Memorial post. The Brooklyn Baseball club returns unsigned a lease for the Newport News ball park for next season.

9—L. B. Perrin and F. T. Haywood are elected vice presidents of Virginia Engineering company. Congregation of St. Andrew's Episcopal church in Hilton Village, approves two-story addition to parish house. Warwick county and Newport News officials told by State highway department that 58th St. bridge will be closed unless county and city financial aid is forthcoming.

11—Elizabeth City and Hampton treasurers, report that 7,908 persons have paid poll taxes to date. War assets administration approves transfer of seven buildings and 77 acres of land at Camp Patrick Henry to Warwick county for use as a tubercular and chronic disease hospital.

14—Federal court grand jury returns only one indictment as July term of court opens. Mayor Horace H. Edwards of Richmond is the speaker at Chamberlin hotel banquet honoring Federal Judge Albert V. Bryan.

15—Capt. A. P. Storrs, USN, arrives at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock company to take command of new giant plane carrier, Coral Sea. Newport News city council orders cancellation of bond issue referendum for new baseball park. Wythe district fire department ambulance fund reaches $5,000 goal.

16—Retroactive pay in the amount of $240,000 distributed to Newport News shipyard employes for work last year on naval contracts. Oscar G. Atkins, 48, life-long Newport News resident and one-time fire department captain, dies.

17—Lower Peninsula residents flock to opening performance of "The Common Glory" at Williamsburg. United States navy announces it will take possession of Pier X, World War II Newport News wharf.

18—City Corporation Judge Herbert G. Smith awarded Newport News Cosmopolitan club's distinguished service medal.

19—Gen. Jacob L. Devers, commander of army ground forces, places cornerstone of new home of Craigs-McCue post, Veterans of Foreign Wars, at Phoebus.

20—Ira Dermont Boone, 22, of 121 South Curry St., Phoebus, found slain outside Hampton city limits with six revolver slugs in his body.

21—Peninsula Athletic association with aim of saving professional baseball for community, formed by group of baseball followers. Passenger airline service between Newport News and Norfolk is authorized by the State Corporation commission.

23—Fire that threatened to destroy entire municipal boat harbor, did about $50,000 damage to Standard Oil company bulk plant on Jefferson Ave. State Senator L. U. Noland is elected State chairman of commission to consider expansion of American Legion War Memorial museum.

24—Asheville Mica company of Asheville, N. C., announces establishment of plant at Newport News boat harbor to employ about 750 persons.

25—Action in chancery by Sidney Banks and A. L. Bivins, in which they sought to be declared partners of L. U. Noland in Hotel Chamberlin corporation, is dismissed in circuit court by Judge Richard Spindle of Norfolk.

26—Richard K. Mansfield of Cleveland named director of Newport News-Warwick county community chest.

28—Newport News nets $6,600 fees from legalized pinball machines since their return two months ago.

29—Vlademar Andersen resigns GOP Newport News committee chairmanship.

30—L. M. Newcomb company seafood packing plant at Phoebus hit by $38,000 fire. Real estate valuations in Newport News drop $699,-370 in 1947 and now totals $37,622,-760, W. C. Taylor commissioner of revenue, reports.

AUGUST

1—Times-Herald reporter and photographer accompany first air shipment of crabmeat to Pittsburgh. Langley Field planes participate in 40th anniversary celebration by air force. Kent Cooper, executive director of Associated Press, speaks at Williamsburg during "Common Glory."

2—Fire destroys large warehouse at Camp Patrick Henry. Proposed expansion of American Legion museum expected to cost $115,000.

4—Two oil tankers purchased by shipyard.

5—Noland, Hutchens, McMurran nominated to Virginia assembly, Curtis, Shield win in Warwick county, Bioxom in Elizabeth City, Garner charges "crooked" election.

6—Arkell Safety Bag company buys Gar Wood plant.

7—Expect referendum to be held Nov. 4 on $750,000 bond issue for new Warwick county schools. David Dick named chairman for community chest.

8—Shuttle air service begins between Newport News, Norfolk and Cape Charles. Langley flier killed in jet plane crash near Williamsburg.

9—Officials discuss possibility of new baseball park. Elizabeth City county construction jumps over two million dollars.

10—Alton Roberts wins Peninsula Junior Boys' tennis tournament. Mrs. Annie Mary Post, mother of Phoebus Mayor Robert F. Snow, dies.

11—State Firemen's association convention begins. WGH begins FM broadcasts.

13—Peninsula Industrial committee votes to begin $100,000 fund campaign.

14—Shipyard and PSA begin negotiations to increase wage clause in contract.

15—Phoebus, Alexandria win top honors in State firemen's convention parade.

16—Judge H. G. Smith heads PIC fund committee. W. B. Williams, local merchant, drowns in Giles county lake.

17—Deaths of prominent people today: Harry H. Ahern, old shipyard employe; Jerry O. Smith, furniture dealer; Mrs. Jane Roberts Conner. George Payton ties for second place in Portland open golf tourney.

18—Richard Newman named special assistant to city attorney. Council votes to assume operation of American Legion museum at Huntington park.

20—Census shows Newport News population at 53,000. State acquires Camp Peary reservation for game reserve.

23—S. J. Harwood, city's first police chief, is 85 years old.

27—Three-alarm blaze damages three buildings on Madison Ave. National Chamber of Commerce delegates meet at Williamsburg.

28—Peninsula to participate in Suffolk district's allocation of $2,-969,246 for highway work.

29—Local grocer reports milk commission refuses to let him sell milk at 20 cents per quart. H. T. Roane, retired yard employe, dies. A. N. (Buddy) Branch wins national drum major title at Legion convention in New York.

30—Minnie Felker, Hampton, killed when swept from running board of car.

SEPTEMBER

1—Lower Peninsula observes quiet Labor Day with no public ceremonies and accidents at a minimum.

2—Peninsula Industrial committee launches $100,000 drive to continue its program of bringing new industries to this area. Veterans numbering 1,360 cash terminal bonds aggregating $277,169 in Newport News and Warwick banks, the first day rush. Raymond Laurence, Negro, facing execution for slaying of a Newport News policeman, loses appeal for writ of error in Virginia State supreme court.

3—More than 7,000 Newport News students troop back to school at opening session of fall term.

5—California trio—Laurence Murtaugh, his wife, and Jack Moore—captured by police in wild automobile chase through Newport News, Hampton and Elizabeth City coun-

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