

Potomac News 10/3/80

# the way it was



## Occoquan art fair

One of Occoquan's early art fairs is shown in this pre-1972 photo of downtown Occoquan B.A. (before Agnes). The somewhat ramshackle

building has been renovated and is now the Occoquan Inn. (Potomac News file photo)

# Rebuilt Occoquan Inn Is Back in Operation

Another Occoquan business is back in operation following the devastation of tropical storm Agnes.

The Occoquan Inn, which was on the verge of expansion when flood waters tore away two-thirds of the building, opened Thursday for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

When the flood hit, proprietors Edson M. Lynn and Donald C. Lynn had started work to open a banquet room upstairs and add a dining room in the adjoining building. A carry-out restaurant with self-service tables was already doing a brisk business.

But the flood washed away the adjoining building and the veranda of the restaurant, and the expansion had to start almost from scratch.

The newly opened restaurant includes a new section, built on the opposite side of the carry out shop from the building which washed away. The new wing features a dining room seating 50 upstairs and a cocktail lounge downstairs. The carry-out area is back in operation and the two banquet rooms upstairs are ready to seat up to 36.

Dining room patrons will find power service plates bearing the restaurant's insignia, featuring a boat, a pier and gulls in flight, designed by Bud DeVere, of the Frame House.

another Occoquan business.

On the plates are the dates 1785 and 1972. The first is the year in which John Hallendine, bought a site warehouse authorized by the General Assembly and began building the town of Occoquan, according to the brief history of the town printed on the back of the menu. The town was declared a disaster area in 1972 by President Richard M. Nixon when the floods hit.

One wall of the dining room is hung with nautical paintings by Edson M. Lynn, and above the salad bar on the opposite wall is a painting which won the historic purchase award in the annual Occoquan sidewalk art show in 1971. It depicts the Occoquan Inn before it was converted into a restaurant.

The same building is pictured in a painting in the carry-out area. It was purchased by Vern Dawson, owner of the building, at last fall's "come back to Occoquan" show and auction. The artist sold the painting with the stipulation it must be left in a public place.

In the cocktail lounge, called the Hammit Hotel, named after the general by Jean Heddon of Lake Ridge Hampton, the menu explains, was in charge of the Confederate defenses south of Bull Run during the Civil War. His headquarters were in

the Hammit Hotel, now the Beachwood Apartments, at Union and Commerce streets in Occoquan.

The rebuilding of the Occoquan Inn was a Small Business Administration-sponsored project. After the flood Pollard Equipment of Alexandria helped the Lynns design the kitchen and the arrangement of the restored building.

Chef Woody Settle was at work the past few days before opening, accepting delivery of food and preparing for the

restaurant's opening. The carry-out hours are 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., with the dining room opening at 11 a.m.

The dining room dinner menu includes a do-it-yourself salad bar with all entrees. Some of the entrees are baked lasagne, steaks, steamship round, fried or Norfolk style shrimp, ham with raisin sauce and boneless breast of chicken supreme stuffed with wild rice.

The luncheon menu includes the salad bar and cheese omelette, steak, London broil with bordelaise sauce, fish, ham

and a weight watcher's special with tuna. A variety of sandwiches is listed and most of the luncheon items may also be ordered at the carry-out window.

The carry-out area includes self-service tables. Breakfast is served from 6 a.m.

Wine will be served after 15 days and liquor after 30 by ABC laws. A large parking lot behind the building is yet to be finished.

In front of the restaurant is a sign. Now open under renewed management.



THE DINING room of the Occoquan Inn which opened yesterday. In the background, above the salad bar, is a painting of building before the flood washed two-thirds of it away. (JM Photo by Ann Holiday)

## Weekend Calendar

Friday, March 2

Area Boys Baseball Registration, Manassas Park Little League, 7 to 10 p.m., Manassas Park Recreation Area.  
World Day of Prayer Observance, No Service But Church Open, 7 to 10 p.m., St. Thomas United Methodist Church, Manassas.

"Play It Again, Sam," buffet, 7 p.m., performance, 8:30 p.m., Hayloft Dinner Theatre, Manassas.

"The Train Robbers," 7 and 9 p.m. Mall Cinema, Mall at Manassas.

"Across 110th Street," 7 and 9 p.m., Manaport Theatre, Manassas.

"The Valachi Papers," 7 and 9 p.m., Reb Yank Theatre, Manassas.

"The Concert for Bangladesh" and "The Hot Rock," 7 and 9 p.m., Reb Yank Theatre, Manassas.

Saturday, March 3

Greater Manassas Chess Club Game Session, 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Parkside School, Manassas Park.

"Pinocchio," 12:30, 2 and 3:30 p.m., Manaport Theatre, Manassas.

"The Train Robbers," 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 p.m., Mall Cinema, Mall at Manassas.

"The Valachi Papers," 2, 7 and 9 p.m., Reb Yank Theatre, Manassas.

Prince William County Junior and Senior High School Concert Music Festival, 2 to 6 p.m., Gar-Field High School Auditorium, Woodbridge.

"Across 110th Street," 5, 7 and 9 p.m., Manaport Theatre, Manassas.

"Play It Again, Sam," buffet, 7 p.m., performance, 8:30 p.m., Hayloft Dinner Theatre, Manassas.

"The Concert for Bangladesh" and "The Hot Rock," 7 p.m., Manassas Drive-In Theatre.

Sunday, March 4

"Pinocchio," 12:30, 2 and 3:30 p.m., Manaport Theatre, Manassas.

"The Train Robbers," 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 p.m., Mall Cinema, Mall at Manassas.

"The Valachi Papers," 2, 7 and 9 p.m., Reb Yank Theatre, Manassas.

Prince William County Junior and Senior High School Concert Music Festival, 2 to 6 p.m., Gar-Field High School Auditorium, Woodbridge.

"Play It Again, Sam," matinee buffet, 2 p.m., performance, 3 p.m., evening buffet, 7 p.m., performance, 8:30 p.m., Hayloft Dinner Theatre, Manassas.

"Across 110th Street," 5, 7 and 9 p.m., Manaport Theatre, Manassas.

"The Concert for Bangladesh" and "The Hot Rock," 7 p.m., Manassas Drive-In Theatre.

Monday, March 5

Manassas-Aires Barbershop Chorus Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m., Dean Middle School.

TOPS No. 170, 7:30 p.m., Prince William County Library, Manassas.

Junior and Senior Groups, 7:30 to 9 p.m., Calvary and Presbyterian Church, 9212 Lee Avenue, Manassas.

"The Valachi Papers," 7 and 9 p.m., Reb Yank Theatre, Manassas.

"Across 110th Street," 7 and 9 p.m., Manaport Theatre, Manassas.

## Constitutional Questions Raised in County Lawsuit

A suit against the county board by a disgruntled zoning applicant has been filed in circuit court by Clifton D. Mayhew.

Mayhew, who represents himself as owner of a 66.97 acre tract on Balls Ford Road (Route 621), sought to have the property rezoned from agricultural to commercial for development as a mobile home park.

One week by a 4 to 3 vote, the board approved the rezoning and the issuance of a special use permit. The permit is required by county code for mobile home park operation.

The next week, the board reconsidered its action. A motion to rescind the rezoning resulted in a tie. Tiebreaker Jeff Schwartz was called in. He cast his vote to rescind the rezoning.

In his suit, Mayhew alleges that final board action denying the rezoning is void and

The county has 21 days in which to reply to Mayhew's allegations after which time the case may be set to trial if there are no motions or demurrers filed in the case.

It is conceivable that the case could go all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court because of the complainant's allegations that his U.S. constitutional rights have been violated.

The county staff recommended denial of the rezoning application based on a number of factors including road access, sewer

unavailability, school conditions and the flooding of nearly the entire tract to depths up to 17 feet of water from tropical storm Agnes. Citizens in the area also protested the rezoning.

Two suits by citizens against the county board's actions in the matter are still in active status. One of the suits seeks removal of the four Supervisors who originally voted in favor of Mayhew's rezoning application.

The special use permit was authorized under questionable circumstances as the county code requires separate advertising and public hearing from the rezoning advertising and hearing.

There have also been unanswered questions about the role of Manassas Supervisor Roy W. Doegett in the rezoning matter. The tract for which Mayhew sought rezoning was the same property for which

## School May Go

Attendance at the Natco School Board convention, California and regional to meeting and the appointment of an advisory committee on special education are among the items to be discussed at a week's School Board meeting.

All three subjects came up Tuesday night's Prince William County School Board meeting, however, no decisions were made since two board members were not present. Paul Bo and T. Clay Wood both previous commitments for evening and could not be there when notified of the afternoon of the meeting.

The 33rd annual Natco School Board association convention is being held April 7-11 in Anaheim, Calif. Board Chairman Ellis Hawki expressed his opinion that "personally feels some members should attend."

Those who have gone these national conventions know that about 99 percent the sessions are worthwhile as we should have as many as attend.

He also pointed out that the national convention is open school administrators, chartered flight for Virgin delegates to the convention has been scheduled at a cost of \$157.35, round trip.

Since reservations need to be in by Monday, March 5, and the board's next meeting is next Wednesday, March 7, members said they would talk about among themselves during the week to see who can attend.

## Bloodmobile Schedule Is Revised

The Bloodmobile schedule announced by the Prince William County Chapter of the American Red Cross earlier this year has been revised and three changes made on the schedule.

The Bloodmobile, originally to be held Monday, March 5, has been postponed until Wednesday, April 4, at the Stonewall Jackson Volunteer Fire Department, Garner Court, Manassas. This replaces the Bloodmobile scheduled for that date in Manassas Park.

The next Bloodmobile will be held Friday, March 23, at the Dale City Civic Center.

A new addition to the schedule is a Bloodmobile to be held April 26 at the new Potomac Hospital in Woodbridge.

The last two Bloodmobiles remain unchanged, May 8 at Prince William Hospital and May 18 at Batts Firehouse in Woodbridge.

## Scout Expo Set In Woodbridge

The Girl Scouts of Woodbridge invite the community to attend the first Woodbridge Girl Scout Expo. The Expo will take place on Saturday March 10 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Marumess Creek Park. Rain date is March 17.

More than 1,000 girls representing 40 Woodbridge troops plan to exhibit what Girl Scouts do. There will be displays of arts and crafts, music, dancing, campcraft, nature study, sewing and more. No admission will be charged.

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