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Getting Closer: Operation Liberty Port, The Captain's Ball and the Little Jennie

By GAIL ELLEN DALY

With July approaching at full speed, plans for the weekend are also moving ahead quickly. Operation Liberty Port has set a tentative schedule of events: events that all residents can participate in. The Long Islander will include a special supplement in the June 26th issue detailing all of the planned activities and the times they are scheduled.

Mike Mahoney, chairman of the Captain's Ball committee, said that ticket sales are moving along nicely. "We would like to see a sell-out," he continued, "and so far things look good." Anyone wishing more information about the ball may contact Mr. Mahoney at 7733. The Ball will be held July 1st on the grounds of the Vanderbilt Museum.

Restoration work continues on the Little Jennie as Huntington's Representative in Operation Liberty Port. The restoration of the Little Jennie as Huntington's Representative in Operation Liberty Port '86 nears completion. According to Mr. Mahoney, the sail covers, which were donated by M & M Canvas in East Northport, are being finalized. "The interior work is also

almost finished," he said, "The ballast is in, the flooring about completed, and the painting about to begin."

The as yet unsolved question is: where will the Little Jennie go after the Tall Ships Parade? This ship's captain, William Perks, has requested that the town provide the Little Jennie with a permanent home for the purpose of using the historic vessel as a mini-Mystic Seaport educational venture. The Northport site on Woodbine Ave. seems doubtful as the Village of Northport "has given us the cold shoulder."

"They would rather have a bunch of commercial fishing boats at the dock," Mr. Perks said.

An alternative site being considered is the dock at Coindre Hall, now the Eagle Hill School.

"The Little Jennie has been invited to participate in the Freeport In-Water-Boat-Show this fall," Mr. Mahoney added, "But if she has no home, she'll be in the Chesapeake and that's a long distance from Freeport."