



Reggie Fountain demonstrates a boat similar to the award winner

(Rik Carter photo)

'We're All No. 1,' Says Fountain

By MICHAEL ADAMS
Special to the West Craven Highlights
Reggie Fountain, president of Fountain Powerboats, held up an index finger and told his employees, "We're all number one."
Fountain had reason for his boast. Bob Nordskog, publisher of *Powerboat Magazine*,

had just presented him with the trade journal's award for "Offshore Boat of the Year." Several of the powerboats can be found skimming the surface of the Neuse River in Craven County and the Trent River in Jones County, not to mention other parts of the world.
The employees of Fountain's

company gave him a standing ovation as the award was presented at a luncheon Monday. Nordskog, who still races offshore boats at age 75, said to Fountain in a press conference before the official presentation, "You have come up with the finest, best quality, best handling boat" in its class. "It's nice to know that people

are in a boat that can get the job done and do it safely," he said. Fountain was emotional as he received the award, saying he owed a great deal to the quality of his employees. "I'm just really overcome by it, to tell you the truth."
The award winning boat is

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Town Board OKs Budget Of \$208,814

Vanceboro Residents To Pay Same Tax Level As Last Year

By MIKE VOSS
Editor
Vanceboro's Board of Aldermen last Thursday adopted a \$208,814 general-fund budget for fiscal year 1988-89 that will keep the town's tax rate at 50 cents per \$100 valuation.
The budget is slightly over \$18,000 more than last year's budget of \$190,494.
The aldermen also approved \$134,255 to be included in the overall budget for the town's water and sewer fund.
The largest revenue source for the general-fund budget is the \$70,000 expected to come from ad valorem taxes. Sales and use taxes are expected to add \$43,000 to the town's coffers. The third-largest source of revenue for the town is expected to come from garbage fees totaling \$25,200. Another \$24,000 is expected to come from the Powell Bill, a state program to fund street construction and improvements.
The largest expenditure item in the budget is the \$60,242 earmarked for sanitation. The budget provides \$53,752 for the

town's administration department. The budget also provides \$58,523 for the town's streets.
Although the town doesn't have a police officer at present, \$24,941 had been budgeted for the police department.
Other sources of revenue and amounts include the following: Franchise tax, \$17,500; library, \$8,614; earned interest, \$3,000; sales tax refund, \$1,100; ad valorem taxes from previous years, \$1,000; privilege licenses, \$1,000; old exemption refund, \$900; gas tax refund, \$800; rent, \$900; cable TV, \$1,500; beer and wine tax, \$3,900; intangibles tax, \$5,000; auto tags, \$500; traffic signals refund, \$500; officers' fees, \$200 and interest and penalty on taxes, \$200.
Other areas of expenditure are library, \$9,556; fire protection, \$1,000; park, \$300 and cemetery, \$500.
Revenue for the water and sewer fund is expected to come mostly from water and sewer charges. The budget calls for
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State Study Suggests Link Between Discharges, Crab Disease

A new state study concludes that there is a link between areas of the Pamlico River where crabs have been hard hit by a shell disease and areas with high levels of chemical discharge from Texasgulf Chemicals Co.'s Lee Creek operation.
Crabs with the disease have also been found in the lower Neuse River, but not to the degree reported in the Pamlico. State officials say the disease is commonly found in crabs, but not at such high numbers as the area around Texasgulf has produced recently.
But the study, conducted by researchers for the state Marine

Fisheries Division and North Carolina State University, does not say wastewater discharged from the company's phosphatizing plant is responsible for the shell disease.
"I don't think anybody could link it directly," said Terry Sholar, the Marine Fisheries district manager in Washington.
"The association between Texasgulf and the outbreak of shell disease in the Pamlico River cannot be dismissed as a fortuitous event and warrants further investigation," the study says.
Texasgulf officials agree that more study is needed and are willing to cooperate and take

part in additional study, said J. Randolph Carpenter, manager of public relations and governmental affairs.
"What they have said is that it warrants further study," said Carpenter. He said Texasgulf is interested in cooperating with Marine Fisheries in any way possible.
Researchers said they thought the outbreak resulted from abnormal growth or hardening of shells caused by a chemical imbalance.
The disease, which was reported last summer, causes weak spots in the shells of blue crabs. The spots can develop into large

sores. Division officials said Monday fishermen were still catching diseased crabs.
Carpenter said company officials had been briefed on the study findings Monday but had not reviewed the study in detail. He said the study indicated a "geographic correlation" between the company's plant and the general area of the outbreak but did not say the company caused it.
Carpenter said the company was working on a wastewater recycling discharge of some of the chemicals cited in the study. A proposed permit for the discharge would reduce the amount

of phosphorus discharged into the river by 90 percent and cut 75 percent of fluoride. State officials are reviewing the permit.
The company has been allowed to discharge up to 60 million gallons of nutrient-rich water a day into the Pamlico. In the last year, the company's discharges averaged about 50 million gallons a day, containing about 3,168 pounds of phosphorus and 2,429 pounds of fluoride per day on the average.
According to the study, samples of crabs taken from 60 places on the river indicated that the highest prevalence of the disease occurred on the south side of the

river between Durham Creek and Indian Island, near the plant's location.
Researchers said that healthy crabs placed in cages at four sites had developed lesions or sores but that development of the disease was significantly faster in high-risk areas, one of which was near Texasgulf.
Carpenter said he had heard reports that crabs in other areas were affected but said he had no specific information on the matter.
He suggested that both point and non-point sources of possi-
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Windsurfing Actor Finding His Niche At The Lost Colony

By MIKE VOSS
Staff Writer
MANTEO — What does the Master of the Queen's Ceremonies in The Lost Colony do when not on stage? He spends time windsurfing, when not rehearsing or catching up on sleep.
Dan Brunson said his role as Master of the Queen's Ceremonies is a little bit court jester and a go-between for the common folk and Queen Elizabeth I. Brunson said the job today would be similar to a chief of protocol.
Resplendent in his 16th Century costume, complete with staff and handkerchief, Brunson carried himself as one would expect from a member of the queen's court. Using the handkerchief almost as an exclamation point, Brunson's speech announcing the queen's garden party sets the mood for frivolity.
Brunson added a new twist to this year's production when he tossed his staff into the air with his foot. The director liked it and it remains in the show.
This is Brunson's second season with the show. He appeared as Ralph Lane last season, a nonspeaking part, but a part. "I came in last summer and had a wonderful time," he said. But things are a bit different this year.
The differences are new costumes, new scenery and backstage tours for visitors. The costume he wears this year was the costume for Sir Walter Raleigh last year. Two new platforms have been built on the stage. But even among the changes, some things remain the same, including some costumes from the first production in 1937.
Brunson also sings with the Madrigal singers that perform

before the show. Brunson, from Charlotte, said he prepared himself for acting and singing by studying both for two years at the North Carolina School of the Arts. He worked with a previous outdoor theater group in West Virginia before coming to The Lost Colony.
Brunson said he researched his role and talked with people who knew about the period. He said the role last year was played as a flamboyant fop. Brunson said he is trying to make the character more of an integral part of the queen's court than a foppish character.
But the ever-present handkerchief does seem sort of silly — until Brunson explains its presence. The handkerchief, held delicately in the left hand, is used for swatting flies, wiping one's face and as an ornament.
Cast members are allowed to hold jobs, although under limited conditions. When not in the garb of the Master of the Queen's Ceremonies, Brunson is in beach attire. He teaches windsurfing at Waterworks, a beach business that also rents ski jets. Cast members can work about 25 hours a job that is not too demanding, said Brunson.
"There are more things to do than I can do," he said when asked how busy he is between the two jobs and other commitments. Those commitments include a girlfriend and taking part in Manteo's Sunset Festival each night. Brunson's barbershop quartet, another singing group and juggler David Stuart perform from 5 to 8 p.m.
About half the cast have previously appeared in the show and current cast members are always
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Brunson in costume

Watch Out — It's Time For Ticks This Summer

By TERRI JAMIESON
Staff Writer
Summer not only means intense heat and related health problems, it also means tick season. And that means another possible threat to one's health.
For people who work or spend a lot of time outdoors in other activities, it is best to be on the lookout for the eight-legged parasites. Careful screening is needed to find ticks on a body and they are often mistaken for freckles because of their small size. Ticks can be found almost anywhere, but they are particularly fond of pastures, vacant lots and brushy and wooded areas.
Ticks are not able to fly, run or drop out of trees, but than can climb. They use their climbing abilities to work their way up bodies and attaching themselves.
There are several diseases that are thought to be carried by ticks, perhaps the most well-known

being Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. The second disease that has recently been identified is Lyme Disease. It was first identified in 1975 by researchers from Yale University. Both diseases can cause serious illness or death.
The best way to avoid contracting these diseases is to prevent contact with ticks. The following precautions can help prevent tick contact:
— Dress appropriately when walking in the woods or tall, grassy areas.
— Make routine inspections of your body, children's bodies and pets. Four times a day is not considered often enough.
When inspecting your body, search through hair, hairlines, in ears, around eyes and under arms. When bathing inspect all folds and creases in the skin.
— If in woods or marshes wear
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Summer Reading Program At Libraries Begins In July

The annual summer reading games at the Vanceboro-Craven County Public Library and the Cove City-Craven County Public Library will begin July 1 and will run through July 26.
"Catch a Ride on the Reading Railroad" is the theme for this year's statewide game.
Each child who registers for the reading game will receive materials specially designed for this year's program. Designed by New Bern High School's Nelle Hayes, the materials are provided to libraries by the State Library.
Each child who reads and reports on at least 10 books during July will receive a certifi-

cate signed by Gov. Jim Martin. Prizes will be awarded for different amounts of books read.
As part of the summer reading program, children can enjoy a Story Hour every Wednesday at 4 p.m. at the Vanceboro-Craven County Library and every Friday at 2:30 p.m. at the Cove City-Craven County Public Library.
The 1988 Summer Reading Game is co-sponsored by the State Library, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources, and is funded through Title I of the Library Services and Construction Act.