

THE STATE PORT PILOT

A Good Newspaper In A Good Community

VOLUME 42 No. 48 14-PAGES TODAY WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23, 1971 SOUTHPORT, N. C. 5c A COPY PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY



Here For Festival

These are the famous U.S. Army Golden Knights who will be a feature attraction during Fourth of July Festival in Southport this year.

They will perform their thrilling air show on Saturday afternoon, July 3.

Board Asks School Body To Scale Down Requests

County schools have asked for too much money, the commissioners say, so the board of education has been told to come up with something less than the \$300,000 increase it has requested.

The school board has asked for \$889,000, compared with \$578,000 a year ago.

The commissioners, in their regular Monday meeting, objected to the request for five additional trailers to be used as

classrooms. The board reportedly believes that the schools should get by with what they have until the three consolidated schools are completed next year.

A revised school budget was expected by today (Wednesday) but no word was available by press time. It also has been suggested that if the school change is acceptable, the county commissioners will approve the tax levy for the next fiscal year.

Mayor Lowe At Public Hearing

A Brunswick County delegation, headed by Southport Mayor Lester Lowe, went to Raleigh last week to tell state government that Bald Head Island should be developed by private interests.

Lowe, speaking to the Senate Conservation and Development Committee, said the island near Southport "could become the outstanding seashore convention center of North Carolina."

The matter came before the committee in a bill sponsored by Sen. S. Bunn Frink of Brunswick. Frink's bill would prohibit the state from condemning the island for public use.

BOTH SIDES HEARD
While the Senate and House committees have heard both sides of the continuing debate, Frink's bill is the only legislation introduced on the

issue. Gov. Bob Scott has suggested that the legislature condemn the island for use as a research-education-recreation area.

Joining Mayor Lowe in support of Frink's bill was William Kopp, chairman of the Brunswick County commissioners. Kopp told the senators the ecology of the island would be protected with "proper and successful development."

Thomas Harrelson, who represents Brunswick County in the state House of Representatives, spoke to the committee in favor of private development and also advocated the re-opening of Corncake Inlet north of the island that has been closed by storm action.

"If Bald Head Island is privately developed and

County Manager Jerry Lewis said, "All the commissioners want to give the school board as much money as possible for necessary items, but in some instances it was felt that the requests were not in the best interest of the county."

NO WAVES
The commissioners also asked the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission to enact a regulation governing the operation of motor boats on the Intracoastal Waterway.

A "no-wake" law would affect several areas along the Brunswick County waterway, including the Southport yacht basin and boat harbor, Tranquil Harbour Marina and waterfront sites farther down the coast.

The commissioners said in their petition to the wildlife agency that property damage and personal injury to individuals have occurred because of craft traveling at excessive speeds in and around the seven designated

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Open House At Post Office

The inauguration of the new United States Postal Service on July 1 will be celebrated in Washington, D.C., and in every post office across the country. Postmaster Marjorie P. Livingston has announced that all members of the community are invited to visit their local post office on that day and enjoy the hospitality of the men and women who comprise the new U.S. Postal Service.

Dedication ceremonies in Washington will be hosted by Postmaster General Blount. Honored guests at the dedication will include members of Congress, former Postmasters General, the Board of Governors of the new Postal Service and their wives, as well as Assistant Postmasters General, headquarters personnel and other dignitaries.

Visitors to the post office will be given a souvenir envelope imprinted with the old and new insignia of the Postal Service. This envelope also will be made available in limited numbers as a first day cancellation - for just the

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Time And Tide

June 24, 1936: A Southport woman, Mrs. H.T. St. George, had been honored by election as Grand Adah for the State organization for the Order of Eastern Star. Her picture appeared on Page 1. There was another photo on the front page, this one of the giant oak at Supply, standing in front of the old McKeithan home. (It since has been blown down during a storm.)

Semi-annual pension checks had been received for the one remaining Confederate veteran and for widows of Confederate veterans in Brunswick; Ormond Leggett and Mrs. George Whately had won cartons of cigarettes for rightly predicting the top songs on "The Hit Parade"; and "Showboat," starring

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Plans Taking Shape For Fourth Of July Festival

Everything is beginning to fall into place for the three-day Fourth of July Festival observance this year in Southport.

The big attraction for Saturday will be the sky show put on during the afternoon by the Golden Knights. That evening the spotlight will shift to Hatch Memorial Auditorium at the N.C.

Baptist Assembly for the Fourth of July Pageant.

In between during the day there will be an opportunity for visitors to go aboard the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Mendota, visit the Art Shows, the Heritage House or to visit the various other interesting displays which will be in Southport.

Visitors are invited to at-

tend a church of their choice on Sunday morning. The afternoon program ranges all the way from a Donkey Baseball game at Taylor Field to a concert by the Charlotte Scottish Pipe Band. Later in the evening, on the Southport waterfront, there will be a special program by the Kachada Indian Dancers. Everything points to a

grand finale on Monday, July 5.

From 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. the Junior Woman's Club art show at the City Hall will be open. The display of flags and linens at St. Phillips Church on W. Moore Street, the Sidewalk Art Show near the Post Office, the N.C. Mobile Museum of History and the Winston-Salem Fire Prevention Van, both to be located on Howe Street, and a color slide program at the library are other attractions.

The slide program entitled "Welcome to Southport" includes color slides of historical and scenic sites in Southport and the Southport area. It includes the beaches and other communities near Southport, and also Sunny Point Military Ocean Terminal and the Brunswick Nuclear Power Plant.

Heritage House, at the Community Building will be open from 9 a.m. until 6 p.m. with a display of antiques and rarities owned and displayed by local citizens.

The really big event of the day is the Fourth of July parade scheduled to begin at 11 a.m. The parade will feature over fifty different units and will hold something for everyone's interest. There will be 25 floats, bands, marching units, the callopie, horses, beauty queens and the newly-crowned Miss 4th of July. Heading the parade will be the Color Guard and Honor Flight from Fort Fisher Air Force Station.

At 1:30, the Fayetteville Arsenal Musket and Gun Club will present an antique

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One-Cent Sales Tax For County Would Aid Budget

A one-cent sales tax could mean as much as one-quarter million dollars for the county during the next 12 months, and the commissioners have the authority to pass the levy.

The matter was discussed on Monday by the commissioners, who must find some way to finance county government. The one-cent tax is often considered the most equitable way, and recently counties adjacent to Brunswick have okayed the measure.

Bladen County levied the

tax earlier this month, while Columbus County's board adopted the tax in its Monday afternoon session.

The North Carolina General Assembly has authorized the commissioners to levy the tax without a vote of the people. The tax could, however, be repealed after the first year if a number of registered voters equal to the number who cast ballots in the last presidential election were to petition for the tax to be removed. In that case, a referendum would be

held.

If the commissioners were to approve the tax before the end of June, the earliest date the levy could begin is August 1. The board, however, has not yet announced its intentions to levy any such tax, and notice of a public hearing would be required beforehand.

There are two ways the money could be distributed — either on a per capita basis or according to ad valorem taxes.

Bill Kopp, chairman of the commissioners, said the board has been encouraged to levy the tax but that any decision on the matter will likely not be made for some time.

"There are numerous areas in the county where that much money could be put to good use," Kopp said, "but we aren't going to jump up and do something like this until we have made a thorough study of the

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Election Trial Now In Progress

A Columbus County registrar charged with fraud and forgery in the November 3 general election has admitted changing the vote totals, according to an SBI special agent who testified in the trial that began in Whiteville Tuesday morning.

Mrs. Alma Ward, who served as registrar in controversial South Lees precinct, is charged with forging the names of the Democrat and Republican judges, removing a page from the poll book, making a false entry in the poll book and making an erasure on the tally sheet.

According to testimony by SBI agent J.B. Barrett, Mrs. Ward told him on January 5 that she had changed the vote totals on the tally sheet because there was a mistake. This was done the day after the election, he reported her as saying.

The interview came during the two-month investigation into alleged voting irregularities that followed the November 3 election. The race in question was between

Arthur Williamson and Thomas Harrelson, a young Southport man making his first run at political office.

The race was much closer than expected, and after several petitions to the state — including a request for a recount of votes in South Lees and a decision on a "spoiled" ballot — the State Board of Elections declared the race to be a tie at 5,452 votes apiece.

Then, after other information, the State Board of Elections held a three-day hearing in Whiteville and awarded the House seat to Harrelson.

The first report to the county Board of Elections was that Williamson had received 13 votes in the precinct, but the tally sheet returned two days later reported his total as 20. Both his total and the total for R.C. Soles, Jr., now serving in the state House, were written over reported erasures.

Harrelson's total did not change, nor did that of Republican J.W. Suggs, the fourth candidate.

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Mayor Receives Note Of Thanks

Mayor Lester V. Lowe has received a gracious letter from Commander H.A. Paulsen, Jr., commanding officer of the USCGC Eagle, whose vessel was in port here for three days during May.

Following is the text of that letter:

"I want to thank you and all the members of your community for the graciousness which was extended to the crew of the EAGLE. It was an honor to receive the Key to the City and I will have it mounted on our plaques already aboard. I cannot remember one instance where we have received a full

page spread in a newspaper to welcome EAGLE and the signal flag welcome message was quite a novelty.

"The loan of the two vehicles and bus enabled us to tour Southport and to reach the fine recreation areas, and the use of the golf facilities and air tour were most appreciated.

"The cocktail party and dinner given the Officers at Chez Steak was an outstanding event. The Cadets are still talking about the Dance and the Enlisted Crew of the Beer-Ballgames which they participated in. I un-

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School Building At Shallotte

This picture of the western area high school building now under construction near Shallotte was taken Thursday. With favorable weather

conditions prevailing in recent weeks, good progress is being made on this building. (Ed Harper Photo)