

THE STATE PORT PILOT

A Good Newspaper In A Good Community

VOLUME 42 NO. 50 12 PAGES TODAY WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, 1971 SOUTHPORT, N. C. 5c A COPY PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

Record Crowd Attends Big 4th Of July Festival Here

Something for everyone. That just about describes the Fourth of July Festival which was written into the record book of National Birthday observances here during the past weekend, and as the crowd melted away following the fireworks Monday night there was a general feeling that this year's celebration may have been the best of the lot.

Things got off to a dismal start Saturday, when festivities were officially supposed to have begun, for that was a dreary, rainy day. It continued that way until early afternoon, long enough to force the cancellation of the air show by the famous Golden Knights. A short time later the sun broke through the clouds, and very soon thereafter four jet fighters from Myrtle Beach Air Force Base performed their four-pass fly-over.

From that moment on there never was any doubt about the program or the weather, as event after event was reeled off in style and on schedule.

From the opening day, there always were the

standby attractions: The Art Festival in City Hall; Heritage House; the Sidewalk Art Show; the Fire Prevention Trailer; the Mobile Museum; the Color Slide Show at the Public Library.

On the waterfront the big attraction, starting Friday and continuing through Tuesday morning, was the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Mendota, moored at the end of the City Dock.

These attractions provided

the background for the Miss Fourth of July Pageant on Saturday night; for the field events for children on Sunday afternoon; and for the Donkey Baseball game at the same site at dusk.

After dark, the scene shifted to the Southport waterfront, where the Scottish Pipe Band of Charlotte gave a concert and performed Scottish dance routines, followed by the colorful Kachada Indian Dancers of Greensboro.

That set the stage for Monday and the Fourth of July parade, the main event of the three-day festival. Congressman Alton A. Lennon was parade marshal, and he was joined by a host of other dignitaries, several of them from the State Legislature.

There were more than fifty units in this year's parade, including beautiful floats with beautiful girls. Included was the new Miss Fourth of July and all the other contestants in this year's pageant. Also participating were several queens from various other pageants and festivals in North Carolina.

During Saturday afternoon motorboat races were staged in the river, and the waterfront was thronged with spectators. Later in the afternoon Mr. Mac and his callope held the spotlight for a concert at the Cedar Bench from this historic musical instrument.

The boat drawing attracted a crowd at the same locations as dark descended over the festival scene, and Floyd Dilsaver turned out to be a popular winner. At least he drew a big hand from his competition.

The second showing here of "The Incredible Star Spangled Banner", a patriotic movie made by Cape Fear Tech in cooperation with the U.S. Marine Corps and the N.C. Department of Archives and History, again was a popular feature.

The grand finale was the

Senate Approves Frink Legislation

The Senate voted overwhelmingly last week to prohibit the state's condemning Bald Head Island, the 12,000 acre wilderness near Southport that conservationists prize so highly.

The legislation introduced by Brunswick Sen. S. Bunn Frink struck a blow at Gov. Bob Scott's efforts to secure the property for the state. Final vote by the Senate was on Friday.

The opinion in Raleigh is that the state has not acted with due speed in getting funds for the purchase or condemnation. Other

legislation introduced last week included an appropriations bill of \$4.7 million for the purchase, but action on Frink's measure came first. Present owner William Henderson of Carolina Cape Fear Corporation has said it could cost the state as much as \$20 million if it were to condemn the island.

The conservation versus development battle over the Brunswick County real estate has been waged for several years now, but this latest action is the most favorable

Continued On Page 4



Miss Dianne Rees, the outgoing Miss Fourth of July, snipped the ribbon Saturday morning to formally open the 11th Annual Southport Art Festival. Others present for this ceremony at Southport City Hall were C.D. Pickerrill, Mayor Lester V. Lowe, Justine Lerch, co-chairman; Queen Dianne, Tricia Foy, co-chairman; Luther Sowers, judge. The young man who just barely made the scene is unidentified. (Photo by Spencer)

Tax Rate Remains \$1.90

The cost of schools now taken care of, Brunswick County has trimmed more than \$3 million from its budget for the next fiscal year.

But the county departments will get more funds than ever before, with an \$800,000 increase over the past two years. The tax rate

remains at \$1.90 per hundred dollar valuation.

The new budget was tentatively approved by the county commissioners on June 30 and will remain open to inspection for 20 days before final adoption.

Total budget for the county, including the schools, will be \$3,491,974 for fiscal year 1971-

72. Last year when the schools were being paid for, the budget was \$6.6 million, and the year before the budget was \$2,668,000.

This year's budget includes salary increases for most county employees.

The county general fund will be \$441,000 up from \$367,000 last year. Other departments, listed with next year's budget first followed by this past year's budget, include:

County accountant, \$43,200 and \$24,000; agriculture extension, \$25,000 and \$18,000; social services, \$109,000 and \$106,000; old age assistance, \$171,000 with only a \$240 increase; aid to families with dependent children, \$281,000 with less than a \$200 drop;

Also, aid to partially and totally disabled, \$143,000 with less than \$100 increase; medical assistance, \$449,000 compared with \$278,000 this past year; aid to the blind, up \$300 to \$6,900; revaluation, down \$2,500 to \$21,000;

County debt service, down \$3,000 to \$77,000; Resource Development Commission,

Art Festival Is Successful

The eleventh annual Southport Arts Festival proved to be the largest art show in Southport's history with a total of 262 entries, most of them being in oils. Other categories were water colors, graphics, crafts, and the junior show.

The judging took place Saturday morning by Luther Sowers, who said that he was very much impressed with the professional quality of the entries. The winners were: Best in Show - "Aerial View" by Gene Hege, Oils; First place - "Echoes of the Past", by Mary W. McKnight this also won a purchase award; second place - "Old Road Home", by Pearl C. Wells; third place - "Eight O'Clock", by Edith Saunders.

Water Colors: First place - "Foursquare", by Dixie Browning; second place - "Drama II", by Engla Lemmermann, third place - "Brush and Snow", by Dot McClure (this painting also won a purchase award).

Graphics: First place - Waiting for Spring, by Louis James Picek; second place - "Tree Study", by Ruth Ogle, third place - "View from Summer Rest", by Margaret Jolls.

Crafts: First Place - "Plate I", by P.L. Sullivan; second place - "Rug" by Kath Gossett; third place - "Treasures of the Seashore", by Sally Ann Harris.

Junior Show: First Place - "Untitled", by Kathy Booth; second place - "Sails", by Robert Hitz; third place - "The Eagle" by Jimmy Kenny.

The city Purchase Award is "The Barque Eagle at Southport" by Lewis Hardee, Jr.

Continued On Page 4



Sandra Allen, who was chosen Saturday night as Miss Fourth of July for 1971, is shown here with the four other finalists in the Miss Fourth of July Pageant held this year at Hatch Auditorium at the N.C. Baptist Assembly. On the left is Miss

Patti Jones, winner of the Miss Congeniality title; Miss Jean Ann Chapman, second runnerup; Jacqueline Sasser; and Belinda Long, first runnerup. (Photo by Spencer)

Sandy Allen Is Crowned New Queen; Starts Reign

Miss Sandra Elizabeth Allen, 19, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harold F. Spencer of Southport, was crowned Miss

Fourth of July 1971, Saturday night at Hatch Auditorium. The Miss Fourth of July Pageant marked the

beginning of the three day celebration commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The annual beauty pageant to select an official hostess for Southport is sponsored by the Southport Jaycees and produced by the Jaycettes (wives of Jaycees). The pageant director was Mrs. Connie Young, who has served as chaperone and business manager for the previous queens. With the use this year of air conditioned Hatch Auditorium at the Baptist Assembly at Fort Caswell more than 500 persons enjoyed the evening of beauty and entertainment.

Mayor Lester V. Lowe of Southport welcomed the guests and introduced the mistress of ceremonies, Miss Cheryl Johnson. Miss Johnson is a former Miss

Woman's Club Meeting Here

Club leaders from the sixteen women's clubs of the eleventh district of the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs will attend their annual summer workshop on Thursday, July 15, in Southport.

District President, Mrs. Stewart B. Warren of Clinton, will preside at the Leadership Conference which will be held at Trinity Methodist Church. District Department Chairmen, who recently attended the state workshop in Burlington, will conduct departmental workshops. Hostesses for the day will be members of the Southport Woman's Club. Registration will begin at 9:30 a.m. Luncheon will be served at the conclusion of the meeting.

District Department Chairmen who will be conducting the departmental workshops are: Con-

Continued On Page 4

Continued On Page 4

Post Office In New Operation

Ceremonies attending the change over of the U.S. Post Office Department to the U.S. Postal Service were observed here Thursday morning at a 10 o'clock ceremony involving Postmaster Marjorie Livingston, Mayor Lester V. Lowe and others.

Mrs. Livingston presented the mayor with a special commemorative document in observance of the occasion, then made brief remarks explaining the significance of the day.

A musical feature of the

program was a solo by Mrs. Eleanor Smith, who was accompanied by Mrs. Dallas Pigott at the antique organ. As a closing number members of the audience joined in singing "The Star Spangled Banner".

The United States Post Office Department faded into history last Thursday after nearly 200 years of service to the American people. It officially became the United States Postal Service.

Continued On Page 4

Continued On Page 4



Citizens gathered at the Southport Post Office Thursday morning for a ceremony marking the changeover from the U.S. Post Office Department to the U.S. Postal Service. In the center is Mayor Lester V. Lowe and on his left is Postmaster Marjorie Livingston. The two ladies on

the right in costume are Mrs. Donald McHose and Mrs. Donnie Dodge. Seated at the portable antique organ is Mrs. Dallas Pigott and half-hidden behind Mayor Lowe is Mrs. Eleanor Smith, soloist for the occasion. (Photo by Spencer)