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A New Day Dawning

(Photo By Boyce Spencer)

Candidates Prepare For May 6 Primary

An incumbent slate of Republican commissioners will be up for re-election next fall, but it will take a May 6 primary to determine which Democrats they will be running against.

Vardell Hughes of Waccamaw Township paid his filing fee Monday morning, shortly before the 12 o'clock noon deadline. William A. Kopp, Jr., J.T. Clemmons, John Bray and Robert Simmons entered the race for the five county commissioner seats several weeks ago.

In a surprise move Monday morning, George W. Frink of Bolivia announced he would contest incumbent Register of Deeds Durward Clark in the Democratic primary. The winner will be opposed by Republican Arthur Knox of Bolivia in the November general election.

Candidates seeking the Democratic nominations for the commissioner seats include Herman Strong, Wayland Vereen and Bob Thorsen of Smithville Township; Dural Guiton and Lonnie C. McCoy, Jr., of Northwest; Ernest M. McGee, Jr., of Town Creek; Andrew Gray and John W. Reeves of Lockwoods Folly; and W.A. Stanley and C. Drew Long of Shallotte.

There is no Democratic candidate from Waccamaw Township.

The five Republicans will be listed on the ballot in November, there is no question of that; the Democrats also will have five candidates — each from a different township. Waccamaw, which has no candidate in the primary, would have none in the general election, either.

The Democratic nominations will not be awarded necessarily to the top five vote-getters: McGee of Town Creek apparently will be nominated, for example, although he might receive fewer votes than any

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Campaign Diary

By MARGARET HARPER

Things are picking up. I was in Greensboro last Wednesday to attend a meeting of the N.C. Bicentennial Commission, which was strictly a non-political session. Still, my presence in Greensboro resulted in an interview with Pat Alspaugh and a couple of good stories in the Greensboro Daily News the next morning. The folks over at WGHP-TV in High Point heard I was up that way and sent a camera crew over for a short sequence that was shown that evening on their news program.

On Thursday morning I

was at Peace College in Raleigh to talk with the student assembly. I had been invited by Jane Finch from Bailey, a real pretty girl who knows Cheryl Johnson. It delighted her to learn that Cheryl is traveling with me some during my campaign.

I enjoy my contacts with college students. Not only are they sharp and fully aware of what is going on, this time they can vote!

While I was in Raleigh, I was interviewed by Mary Dail Mordecai of the News and Observer. She is doing a story on woman candidates for state office and it is due

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Time And Tide

A front-page article in The Pilot for February 24, 1937, not only reported steps being taken in an effort to secure a yacht basin at Southport, but related that this movement dated back to 1930 when the National Association of Engine and Boat Manufacturers had conducted a study and had recommended such an improvement here.

Orton gardens were in bloom — about six weeks earlier than usual: the USE Dredge Comstock had stopped over in Southport; and death had removed one of Southport's l-time colorful characters, the late Pack Tharp.

There was a front-page photo in The Pilot for February 25, 1942, showing some snow scenes in Southport: The outlines said this was the heaviest snowfall here in five years. Bids for construction of the new bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway on the Fort Caswell road were being advertised.

A Southport boy, Teddy Lewis, was in flight training with the Army Air Corps; a "bond" fire had been held by county officials, who had destroyed \$120,500 of redeemed bonds in a public display; and Miss Louise Lewis had become the first full-time clerk-typist with the Brunswick County Rationing Board.

The date was February 26, 1947, the war was over and there was agitation to have the State of North Carolina take over Fort Caswell for operation as a State Park. David W. Watson, principal of Southport High School, was resigning to become a special agent with the F.B.I.

Southport Lions had sponsored an old-time fiddlers convention; a young lady from Guatemala was a "summer" visitor in town — during the month of February, and Southport boys and Bolivia girls had won their respective divisions of the Brunswick County Basketball Tournament.

There was good news in the Pilot for February 20, 1952: A decision had been made to exclude St. Phillips Church and Brunswick Town from the land being acquired for Sunny Point

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State Plans To Take Developers To Court

The importance of a Bald Head Island dredging operation has been greatly exaggerated, according to the president of Carolina Cape Fear Corporation which plans to develop the controversial real estate near Southport.

"If this minor activity is considered to be dredging," said William Henderson, "then every child building a sand castle on the beach would require a permit under the state's dredge and fill law."

Another chapter in the continuing Bald Head saga was written last week when a state fisheries supervisor found where Carolina Cape Fear Corporation had dredged a space large enough to accommodate a barge, which would land heavy equipment on the island.

"To facilitate the safe unloading, the contractor temporarily pushed up some sand on the beach," Henderson said. After the barge was unloaded the landing spot was repaired—so well, in fact, that Corps of Engineers officials were unable to detect where any dredging had occurred.

No matter, said the Corps' Deputy District Engineer Maj. Joel Callahan: "If you do it (dredge below the high-water mark) for a minute, you're in violation of federal law."

Local Woman Killed By Car

A 62-year-old Southport woman was struck by an automobile and killed Friday night as she crossed Howe Street.

Mrs. Nell Pendergraph died at Doshier Memorial Hospital at 7:55 p.m., about 25 minutes after the mishap. Southport Policeman Ray Becraft said no charges will be filed against the driver of the vehicle, 17-year-old Julie Amanda St. George of Southport.

"It was unavoidable," said the patrolman.

Becraft stated in his report that Mrs. Pendergraph had parked her car on Howe Street and was crossing the highway. Rain was falling, Becraft noted, and Miss St. George told him she did not see Mrs. Pendergraph before the impact.

The fatality occurred between Leonard and Owen streets in a posted 35 mile an hour speed zone.

Mrs. Pendergraph was the wife of Lee M. Pendergraph and worked at Doshier Memorial Hospital in Southport.

Funeral services were held Sunday afternoon at Southport Baptist Church with the Revs. Mark Owens and John Dean officiating. Burial was in Northwood Cemetery.

Besides her husband, survivors include one daughter, Mrs. Brenda Garner of Southport; seven sisters, Mrs. Edna Butler of Fayetteville, Mrs. Callie Alfred of Greensboro, Mrs. Ruby Kendall, Mrs. Ruth Wicker, Mrs. Lena Jones and Mrs. Daisy White, all of Raleigh; and Mrs. Blanche Coggins of Alabama; three grandchildren, Jimmy, Kim and Shane Garner of Southport.

Need Of Better Schools Shown By Recent Tour

The Brunswick County commissioners, on an invitation from the board of education, toured the Southport Elementary School and the Leland High School last Wednesday.

The purpose of the tour was to provide the commissioners with first-hand knowledge of the problems resulting from the crowded conditions in these two schools.

The commissioners, accompanied by members of the board of education, began their tour at Southport Elementary School. Principal Marion L. Burn used a sketch of the school to give the visitors an overview of the physical plant.

The Southport school has been plagued by space problems since the destruction of the main building by fire some four years ago. Space problems have been further complicated by increased student enrollment brought about by area construction projects. Prior to the influx of students, it was thought that

the school could be phased out of operation with the opening of the new consolidated high schools. A series of temporary adjustments have left the facility with teaching stations in mobile units, the gymnasium, city hall, a church, the fire station, and the old marineology building.

Following the Southport visit, the commissioners visited the South Brunswick High School site. It was noted that the sandy terrain would make the school parking lot unusable unless funds could be obtained for improvement.

In the Leland area, the commissioners had the opportunity to compare the inadequate facility at Leland High School with the new consolidated high school which is now under construction.

W. Nelson Best, principal of Leland High School, pointed out some of the typical crowded conditions existing in his school. The most notable conditions cited were the utilization of the auditorium as a study hall and the partitioning of classrooms in order to provide enough teaching stations.

Southport, \$3,364.32; Boiling Spring Lakes, \$594.61; Yaupon Beach, \$858.51; Long Beach, \$4,771.57; Shallotte, \$1,051.29; Bolivia, \$51.13; Holden

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Official Takes Exception To Editorial On Smoking

The staff director of the U.S. Surgeon General's Advisory Council on Smoking has taken exception to a recent editorial published in this newspaper.

Dr. Eugene Guthrie wrote to the Pilot, he said, not so much to criticize the editorial but to give the readers a broader background of information.

Dr. Guthrie is first cousin of Mrs. Elizabeth Robinson of Southport and vacations in the area each summer. His

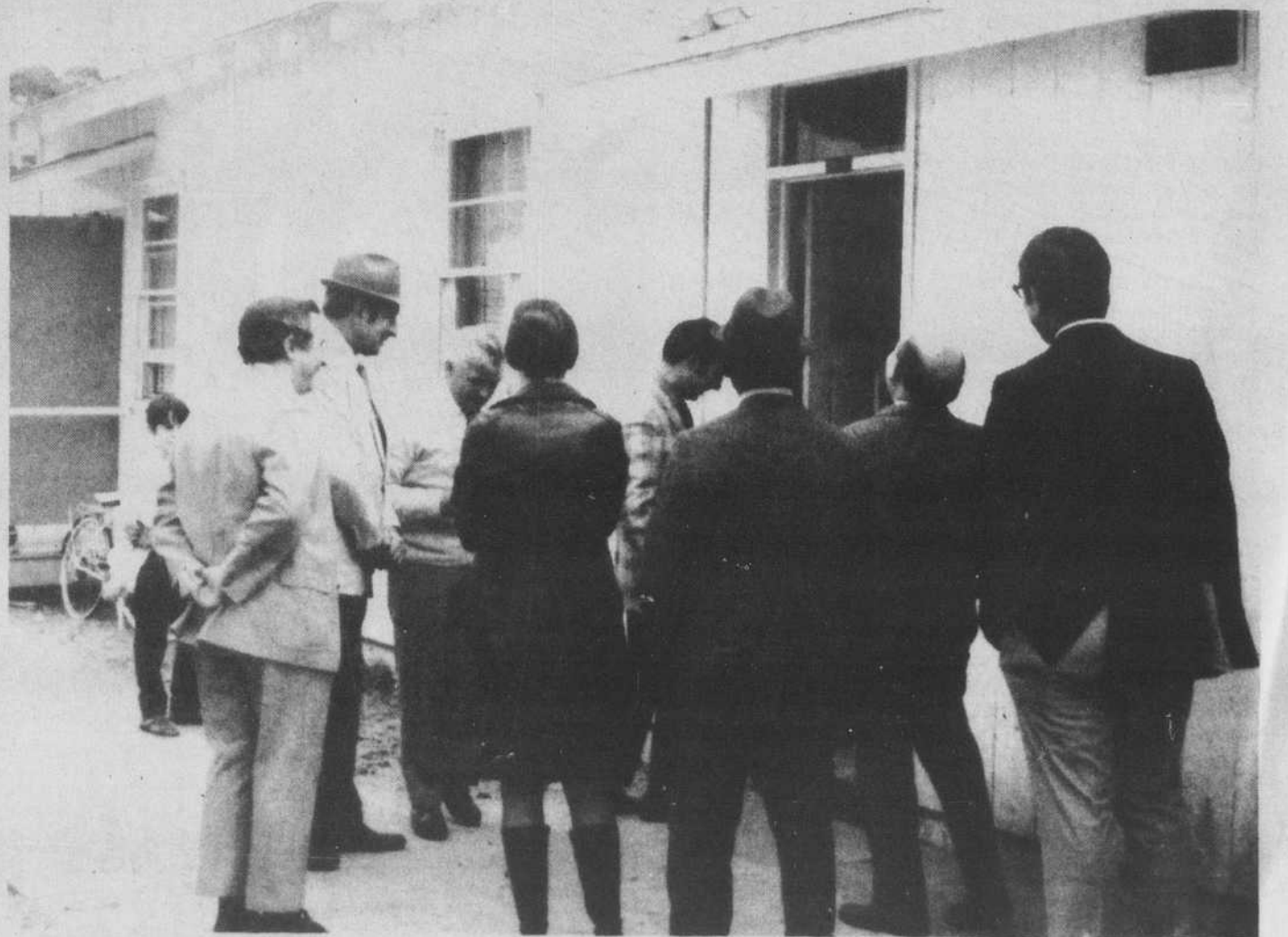
father, also a doctor, was stationed at the quarantine station here.

The staff director said he could not let the February 2 editorial "Unfair Restriction" go unchallenged. The editorial stated that "a requirement that cigarette manufacturers include a printed warning on each pack of their product is another step in the unfair persecution of an industry which has done nothing to deserve this treatment."

The editorial further stated that automobiles and liquor are potentially dangerous to one's health but are not subject to the printed warnings.

Dr. Guthrie cited statements in the editorial which read "cigarette menace to health is untrue" and "nobody in his right mind claims that cigarettes take the lives of as many people as do accidents in automobiles." "Of the many diseases

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OVERCROWDED SCHOOL conditions at Southport and Leland were observed by members of the board of county commissioners last Wednesday. The Southport area students are using makeshift quarters made necessary by the

influx of families for the construction projects in the area. New consolidated high schools will ease the burden throughout the county, but a major problem is expected to continue here.