

# THE STATE PORT PILOT

A Good Newspaper In A Good Community

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A SECOND FIRE within ten days struck the Franklin Square Motel early Sunday morning, destroying the structure that had been damaged earlier. Southport Volunteer Firemen were able

to protect Oliver's Grill, located within a few feet of the motel, and a nearby residence. Fire Chief Ormond Leggett said the cause of the second fire was undetermined.

## Drugs Are Symptom Of Greater Problems

The fellow at the back of Shallotte school auditorium knew the problem that SBI Director Charles Dunn was talking about. He came to the drug seminar quite by accident; he was looking for the principal of the high school to find out why his group could not use the gymnasium.

"They never have any supervision," he was told. Supervision, said Charles Dunn, is something society needs more of. "It is no wonder young people get in trouble; it IS a wonder more of them don't."

The SBI director addressed about 100 persons Tuesday night at Shallotte, guest of the Brunswick County Farm Bureau and the Shallotte Rescue Squad. He noted the potential dangers of drugs, but devoted much of his time to why people use drugs, and what the family, the schools, the church and community could do to halt the increase

in drug abuse. "The problem is not going to be solved," Dunn said. Rather, society should try to keep the use of drugs at a reasonable level. "I don't believe there is a child who won't have to make a decision whether or not to use drugs,"

he added. According to the SBI director, drug use is here to stay for two primary reasons: "We are a drug-oriented people who believe answers lie in little pills. And drugs are a multi-million dollar business in the state,

particularly when they can get young people to take the chances." Young people today, Dunn said, have more money and more problems ("either real or imaginary") than ever before. In an effort to see that

## Boat Harbor Expansion Needed, Says Manager

The Southport Boat Harbor, no longer identified as "small," has applied for a \$650,000 loan to pay for a much-needed expansion.

H.A. Schmidt, manager of the boat harbor, described the proposed expansion program to the Brunswick County board of commissioners, who gave the

plan its unanimous endorsement. "It would make a tremendous impact on the economic growth of the county," said Board Chairman William Kopp, Jr. Next step is to present the request for funds to the Economic Development Administration office in Atlanta. The Southport project is sponsored by the North Carolina State Ports Authority.

"We're trying to stay with the county," said Schmidt. "The county is experiencing a tremendous growth and we are outgrowing our facilities."

Schmidt, far better known around here as "Smitty," said the commercial boats are in Florida now but they will be back. "If one more boat had come in last summer, we would've had to turn it down."

Part of the proposed expansion would accommodate commercial fishing, an industry that the commissioners agree has meant a lot to Brunswick County. Also, a receiving plant for the commercial fishing vessels would be provided, and land would be leased to individual operators.

"This is a big project, but it would be for the good of the community," said the harbor manager.

The proposed project would extend the covered slips because, Smitty noted, "there is a great demand for these." Also, another open pier would be constructed to accommodate the expected increase in boat traffic.

The commercial pier would be 20 feet wide, sufficient to accommodate trucks that

would take the vessel's cargo to a processing plant elsewhere.

The area where boats are now located on shore would be paved as part of a beautification project, Smitty continued.

According to the former party boat captain, the Southport Boat Harbor improvements would mean between 30 and 80 new jobs. "We need to grow," he added.

The commissioners asked

## Demo Rally Is March 27

The Brunswick County YDC will sponsor a Democratic rally at Herman's Restaurant in Southport on March 27, according to Thomas Young, president of the newly-formed organization. This will be a dinner meeting, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

The rally will feature a departure from the usual political program; instead of having one main speaker, the three candidates for Congress from the 7th Congressional District will be the speakers. Each candidate will be given ten minutes to briefly outline his plans and his programs, and following these preliminary presentations there will be a question and answer period.

Other candidates for statewide office are being invited as well as candidates for county offices. All will be introduced.

The congressional can-

## School Board Ponders Selection Of Principals

Selecting principals for the county's three consolidated high schools is no simple matter, as the board of education learned Monday night.

While Nelson Best has been recommended and accepted as principal of the North Brunswick school, a confused situation exists at the South and West Brunswick schools. Supt. Ralph King, "on the basis of what I feel is good for the school system,"

recommended Jonathan Hankins as principal of the South Brunswick school and Dr. Robert Sellers as principal of the West Brunswick school. The South Brunswick committee accepted Hankins, but the West Brunswick school committee not only rejected Dr. Sellers, they voted to accept Hankins although he had not been recommended by Supt. King.

To confuse the issue still more, board of education

chairman Wilbur Rabon said Hankins reportedly would rather remain principal at Union School than assume the same job at South Brunswick High School. And Frank Randolph, a member of the South Brunswick school committee, claims his group acted illegally when it accepted Hankins, and if another vote were taken the result would be different.

Which leaves the county with one solid prospect for

principal—Nelson Best. Dr. Sellers has withdrawn his application, and rather than lose two good men, Chairman Rabon said, Supt. King has been asked to meet with Hankins to see what can be worked out.

The correct procedure for the selection of principals calls for the superintendent to make a recommendation, which is either accepted or rejected by the local school committee. All action is subject to final review by the county board of education.

Hankins had applied for the West Brunswick High School job as his first choice, with South Brunswick his second choice. He lives in Southport but has served as principal of Union School west of Shallotte. "I can see why both groups would be interested in Mr. Hankins," Supt. King noted.

Rabon said if Hankins would not accept the South Brunswick job, "then we lose another good candidate." As an individual, Rabon continued, "rather than not have either Mr. Hankins or Dr. Sellers, I would suggest we put Mr. Hankins at the West Brunswick school."

The next step, the board agreed, would be to determine if Hankins would accept the South Brunswick job, but then the question of legality was raised by Frank Randolph.

He said that Judge Ray Walton withdrew from the local school committee because, as a judge, he would

## Water Pipeline Funds Are Sought By County

A \$3.5 million grant to help meet future fresh water needs of Brunswick County is being sought from the Economic Development Administration.

Representatives of county government have planned a March 23 trip to the EDA regional office in Atlanta, following a preliminary request for the loan that was submitted last month. Additional sources of fresh water are expected to be needed as industrial and municipal development continues in Brunswick County, particularly in the immediate Southport area.

Tentative plans call for the fresh water to be piped from the upper part of the county to the Southport area, and then onto the beaches and

westward along the Brunswick coast in the event of saline intrusion of existing fresh water supplies.

"We will be moving on this system, pretty rapidly," said County Manager Jerry Lewis.

The first phase of the proposed fresh-water system would serve the needs of the area for at least five years, but the pipeline would be of sufficient capacity to handle the expected growth of this area. The anticipated volume of water to be required within

20 years is 17 million gallons per day, compared with the current, all-county need of approximately six million gallons.

Some county residents would not use the water supply because of adequate water supplies of their own, Lewis reminded the board of commissioners at their regular first-Monday meeting.

Lewis described the proposed water pipeline as "the beginning of a county-

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## Campaign Diary

By MARGARET HARPER

## Bank Thieves Get 20 Years

Four men were sentenced in Eastern District Federal Court in New Bern February 23 for the robbery of the Waccamaw Bank and Trust Company branch office at Sawdust Trail near Southport last October 29.

Three of the four defendants pleaded guilty: Thomas Hailstock, who was given a 15-year sentence; and Lawrence Edward Frost and Frank Reginald Pryor, each of whom received a 20-year sentence. George Atkinson pleaded not guilty of the bank robbery, but was convicted and sentenced to 20 years in prison.

Judge Algernon Butler presided over the trial.

The robbery occurred on the morning of October 29, shortly after the bank opened for business. Three young men, one of them armed with a sawed-off shotgun, forced the bank employees into the vault where they were locked up while the bandits made their escape.

Bank officials reported that \$3,775 was taken in the hold-

This week I have really been on a merry-go-round, starting last Tuesday afternoon with a reception in Pittsboro at the home of my cousins, Tom and Jean Reeves. It was a pleasant surprise to find that one of our guests was the former Alberta Leonard, daughter of Robert H. Leonard of Shallotte Point. She's now Mrs. Dixon of Goldston and we had "old home week" there for awhile.

That night I spoke at the Siler City city hall along with Congressional candidates from that district. I especially enjoyed talking after the meeting with some young people who stayed to discuss various matters.

Wednesday was a busy day, beginning with a brief visit with Dr. Allan Graham at his office in Ramseur. I found that his sister, Mary Tate Blake, is running for the board of education there. Another short visit in Asheboro with my friend David Stedman, head of a manufacturing plant there. I knew him largely through the N.C. Zoo Commission and he was kind to introduce me to his co-workers in the plant.

I arrived in Salisbury in time for my luncheon engagement with the Lions Club and then left immediately for Albemarle where my friend Linda White, president of the Junior Woman's Clubs of North Carolina, had arranged a reception at the Heart of Albemarle. It's fortunate that her husband Jim is in the automobile business because I was having some car trouble on the way which he had corrected while the reception was going on.

Then on back to Salisbury where I spoke at a dinner meeting of the Democratic Women of Rowan County. All the candidates for lieutenant governor were there; Roy Sowers and I were seated together and Roy expressed the idea that it was bad for me to have to listen to his joke so often, but I reassured him, "Go ahead and tell it. The folks in the audience haven't heard it, and I'm not going to vote for you

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## Mrs. Harper Appoints Aide

Mrs. Frank Bryant of Booneville has been named by Margaret Harper as state co-manager of Mrs. Harper's campaign for lieutenant governor.

In this role she will be working with Semi Mintz, with her principal area of responsibility being to coordinate the activities of existing women's organizations.

Mrs. Bryant has an impressive record in working with woman and young people on a state level. Currently, she is chairman of the Youth Advisory Board for North Carolina, which was established by the 1969 General Assembly, and is a member of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Children and Youth. She was appointed North Carolina delegate to the White House Conference on Children and Youth in December, 1970.

The Booneville housewife is past president of the N.C. Federation of Women's Clubs and currently is chairman of the Public Parks and



MRS. FRANK BRYANT

Recreation Division of the General Federation. She also holds the office of first vice president of the N.C. Council of Women's Organizations. Her husband is a former member of the N.C. General Assembly and now serves as supervisor of the Winston-

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CLERK OF COURT Jack Brown administers the oath of office to new Brunswick County Board of Elections members A.H. Gainey, Jr., of Southport, H.H. Bellamy of Shallotte and L.C. Babson of Waccamaw. Babson is the Republican member of the board.