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A BOTTLENECK is expected to develop this summer at this one-lane bridge, the only link between Oak Island and the mainland. The old swing-type bridge was demolished last fall by an

Intracoastal Waterway barge, and it will be 18 months to two years before a high-level bridge to Yaupon Beach and Long Beach is completed.

## Long, Slow Summer Expected At Beaches

The high-level bridge promised for Oak Island will not be ready until after the summer of '73, according to a report this week from the State Highway Commission. The required public hearing should be held sometime in May, according to R.W. McGowan, assistant chief engineer in charge of reconstruction. Another SHC assistant chief, J.L. Norris, said it would take at least 18 months to complete the \$3.6 million proposed span.

Island residents were stranded last September 7 when an Intracoastal Waterway barge struck the swing-type bridge that provided the only access to Yaupon, Caswell and Long beaches. The state has provided a temporary bridge, but the one-lane structure is expected to be a bottleneck of major proportions when the

waterway traffic and number of vacationers increase.

Folks on the island have been concerned about the public hearing that must be held before any contracts can be let. A conversation with SHC public information director Arch Laney revealed that the environmental study and location survey have been completed, and the department now is working on maps that must be ready for the public hearing must be advertised for 30 days, McGowan said "we are reasonably sure we can have it in May."

There has been discussion about where the bridge would be located, but the highway commission has proceeded with plans to build the high-level structure just west of the present canal crossing. Long Beach Manager Jack Hayward said the townspeople would go along with

this: "Regardless of where the bridge is, the people want a permanent bridge as quickly as possible," Hayward noted.

"What they are upset about is the dragging of feet," he added.

The town manager said the island residents could live with the inconvenience this summer — and probably next summer, too — but he left no doubt that the economy of Oak Island would be hurt

(Continued On Page Nine)



Rear Admiral James E. Forrest

## Voters Can Register In Southport Monday

Southport - area residents can register to vote next Monday without making a special trip to the board of elections office at Bolivia.

Mrs. Vivian Tatum, executive secretary of the county board, will be at Brunswick-Southport High School that day from 9 a.m. until 7 p.m. to register persons to vote in the May 6 primary. The deadline for registering anywhere is April 7, Mrs. Tatum said.

The board of elections secretary will be at Waccamaw High School next Wednesday, Leland High School next Friday and Shallotte High School the following Monday.

Other than these four special times and places, the only place a Brunswick County resident can register is at the Bolivia office. The reason: Brunswick is on what the state board of elections terms a modified plan because there are not 14,001 registered voters in the county.

"We can't go full-time until we get 14,001," said Mrs. Tatum. Right now, she

estimated, there are 11,000 registered voters in the county.

The modified plan means that the board of elections office is open only three days a week — Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday — from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. "When we go full-time, the board of elections has the authority to appoint commissioners who can register people to vote," the secretary noted.

Because of the legal requirement, she continued, none of the 18 precinct registrars can register people to vote. "They called them registrars before because that's what they were," Mrs. Tatum said.

She added that there are as many people registering at the Bolivia office as had registered previously at the precinct level. "I don't see the difference myself," she

said.

There are many new residents in the county who may be eligible to vote in the May 6 primary, the secretary noted. "They have to live one year in the state and 30 days in the precinct.

"After the general election—if there are as many as they say—maybe we can open the office all the time and get some com-

(Continued On Page Nine)

### Company Misunderstood

## Boundary Not Extended Though Zoning Area Is

A large industry that may locate a plant near Southport has been assured by city officials there are no plans to expand the town limits.

Pfizer, Inc., which has purchased an 850-acre tract of land just north of town on the Cape Fear River, had

expressed concern over recent action by the board of aldermen that extends the town's zoning jurisdiction.

As the board of aldermen repeated Thursday night, the action was nothing more than was required by law: if the town had not extended its zoning region by July 1, jurisdiction of the area within a one-mile radius of the present city limits would thereafter be controlled by the county.

The extension of zoning authority, said the board of aldermen, is not to be confused with an extension of the city limits.

Pfizer reportedly misunderstood the intent of the city after being assured it would not be affected by an extension of the city limits for a reasonable period of time. Board members agreed that Pfizer has had no official contact with the city, which, they also agreed, might prevent further misunderstandings.

Jackie Stephenson, director of the county Resource Development Commission, said the New York-based company was looking for a letter of reassurance that the area would not be incorporated "within a reasonable length of time." Stephenson said he would not like to see the city jeopardize something that would mean so much to the area.

Mrs. Mary McHose, a member of the board of aldermen, asked how the town would accommodate the influx of workers without extending the city limits and thus increasing the tax base? The board, in sending a letter of reassurance, said the

(Continued On Page Nine)

## City Offers County Help

The city has recommended an exchange of property that would make possible an expansion of the present courthouse.

At its regular meeting last Thursday, the Southport board of aldermen said it would give the county a 70 by 90-foot area behind the courthouse in trade for the tax office property, now being used as office space by Brunswick County. The grand jury has recommended to the county that new quarters be found.

County Manager Jerry Lewis has said the county could use the town's property to expand the present courthouse facilities; "We would simply be trading parking spaces," said Alderman Pierce Horne.

In other business before the board of aldermen, a zoning

(Continued On Page Nine)

## Sale Planned For Candidate

Southport women, famous for their Saturday bake sales, are combining the efforts of some of the best cooks in all of their organizations for a special event this weekend — a bake sale for Margaret Harper's campaign for lieutenant governor.

Normally the area between the Southport Post Office and Leggett's is preempted by members of one of the local organizations for a bake sale date on which to raise funds for a club project. This week ladies are pooling their efforts to give financial support to the only candidate Brunswick County has had for state office in this century.

Coordinating the plans for the sale is Mrs. Dallas Pigott, who has been associated with the women political candidate in varied activities since they played on the same high school basketball team. During the intervening years there have been church, Woman's Club, Choral Society, Garden Club, P.T.A. and many more activities in which these two have worked with other women of this community.

"This week I am asking all of the women in Southport to cooperate in this effort to raise some money to help Margaret with her campaign," Mrs. Pigott said Tuesday in announcing plans for the Saturday bake sale.

"None of us can donate a lot of money to her campaign," she said, "but all of us can pitch in on a project which will bring in some money to help pay for billboards, television and radio time and for newspaper ads. This way, nobody will be out any more than the cost of the ingredients for a cake, or for the purchase price of a cake. I think we will have a good time working on this project for our own county candidate."

Not only is Mrs. Pigott busy rounding up cakes from some of the best bakers in town, she is reminding prospective purchasers to be in front of the post office at 9 o'clock Saturday morning to buy a cake. "Get them while they're hot", she advises.

## Navy Admiral Leads Parade

Robert Howard, chairman of the Fourth of July Festival Committee, has announced the confirmation of Rear Admiral James E. Forrest, SC, USN, as parade marshal for this year's parade.

Admiral Forrest is the Deputy Commander of the Military Traffic Management and Terminal Service (MTMTS). MTMTS, a jointly-staffed Army agency, discharges the Secretary of the Army's management responsibilities for military traffic, land transportation and the operation of common-user military ocean terminals in the continental United States.

Admiral Forrest is responsible for both inland and international traffic areas of operation, which include common-user ocean terminal operations both in the continental United States and in several locations overseas.

Admiral Forrest, a Palms,

California native, began a long and distinguished Naval career in 1940. He entered the U.S. Naval Academy on appointment by the Secretary of the Navy. He has advanced in rank to that of Rear Admiral when his selection was approved by the President in May, 1971.

In addition to the Legion of Merit and the Navy Commendation Medal, Admiral Forrest wears the American Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, the Navy Occupation Service Medal with Asia Clasp, the China Service Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal with one bronze star in lieu of second award.

Admiral Forrest has attended the Navy Supply Corps School, the Naval Postgraduate School, the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, and the Management Program for

(Continued On Page Nine)



## Campaign Diary

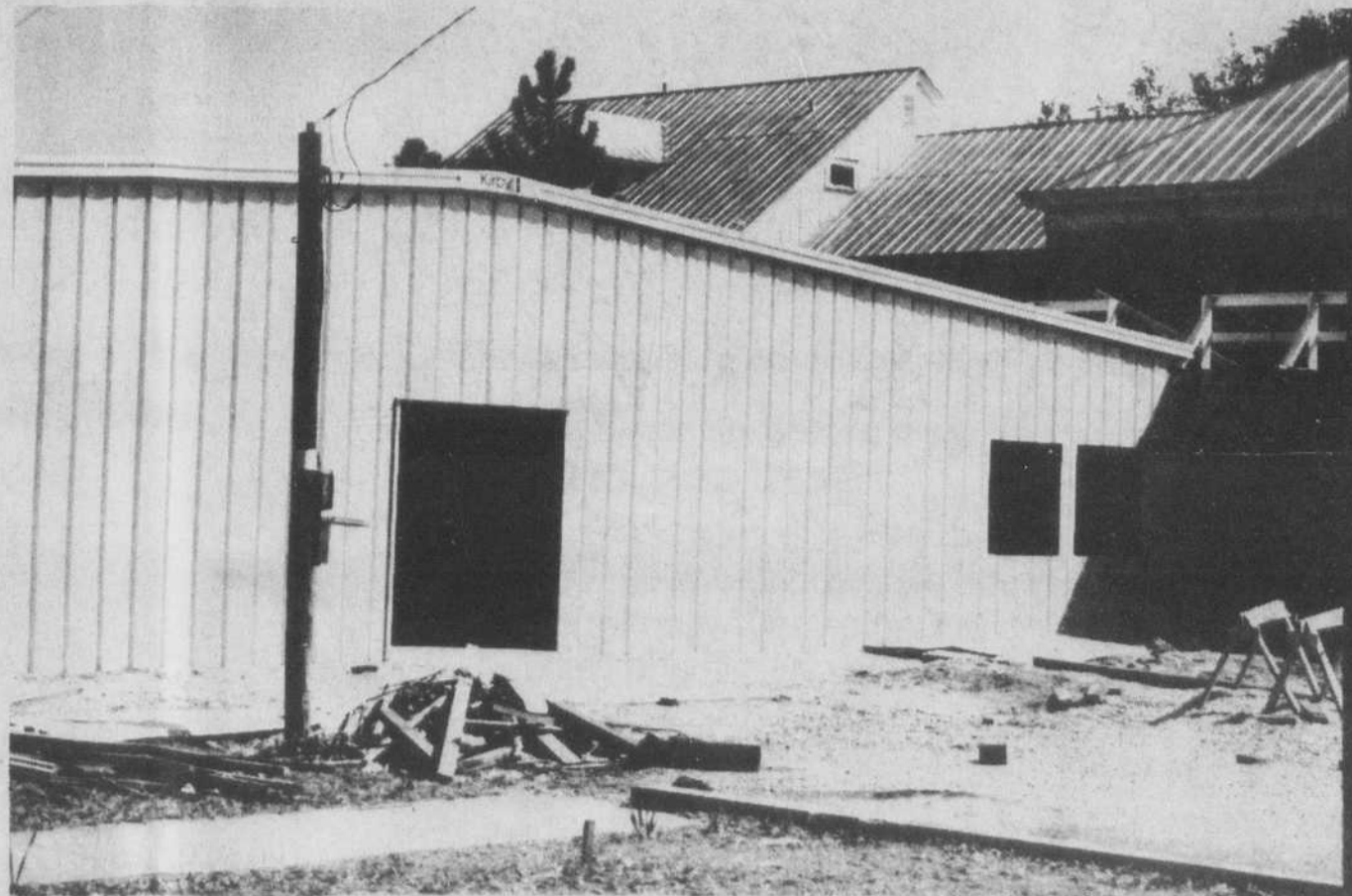
By MARGARET HARPER

There are two interesting items that I left out last week. In Albemarle I saw how they display their old fire truck, which was about the same vintage as ours here in Southport. Ours comes out of mothballs each 4th of July and is driven by Mr. G.E. Hubbard, who drove it when it was new. In the Stanley County town they have encased it in glass and it is in a prominent place downtown.

In Salisbury I stayed with my good friend Marlene Plyler, who is a past-president of the state BPW. Her mother gave me a good-luck token — a real horseshoe which she had gilded!

We were filming some shots for future television use Wednesday and a lot of local people were in front of the camera during the session. One thing I know — the average person when he hears that he or she is on camera has an impulse to turn his head to see if it is true. Also, when your friends find out that you are politticking they expect to shake hands. So, a good part of our time was spent looking at the camera and shaking hands — and they are shots which will

(Continued On Page Four)



A 12-BED ADDITION to Doshier Memorial Hospital at Southport is nearing completion. The structure replaces rooms in the main hospital

building that were renovated to provide the area with a more modern obstetrics unit.