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New Primary School Is Sought For Area

The Brunswick County Board of Education has adopted a resolution calling for a new primary school for Southport and has asked the county commissioners to budget \$100,000 this fiscal year towards the new facility.

The resolution, adopted unaminously by the board, noted the emergency situation that exists due to overcrowding of inadequate classrooms.

According to the resolution, the Southport school for grades one through 12 was destroyed by fire in January, 1969. "Students, as a result of this disaster, have been assigned to temporary, improvised and makeshift facilities," the statement read.

The board of education noted that 823 students in grades one through seven are now assigned to the temporary units and next year, when the consolidated high school will be occupied and space at Brunswick County — Southport High School is available, 537 students in grades kindergarten through four will continue to be housed in the makeshift facilities on an indefinite basis.

"Such conditions contribute to the critical situation adversely affecting the educational process for young students in their formative years," the board stated. Also, "citizens and industries which contribute to

the economic growth of the county support and demand improved educational opportunities in Brunswick County."

The board has formally requested the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners to initiate and establish a "Brunswick County School Capital Reserve Fund," the purpose of which "would be for the

Issue Drags On Corncake

It will be several more years before a study of whether to reopen Corncake Inlet is completed, according to a report received by the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners.

Commissioners had asked for and received a U.S. Senate resolution authorizing the study of the inlet, which was closed by Hurricane Hazel 18 years ago. That was the first of a number of steps, said Col. Albert Costanzo, District Engineer of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

"The next step," he reported to the county commissioners, "will be the appropriation of study funds by the Congress. Since funds are normally made available in the second quarter of the

construction of a primary school in the Southport area of Brunswick County and would eliminate the current emergency situation."

The board also asked that the \$100,000 be set aside from the 1972-73 tax levy, the amount having been incorporated into the budget request submitted to the county board of commissioners.

fiscal year (November or December), study activities in that fiscal year are limited to the preparation of a plan of survey for review and approval by the Division Engineer and the scheduling and holding of a public meeting to afford all interested persons an opportunity to express their views for, or against, the need for reopening Corncake Inlet.

Costanzo said, "Two more fiscal years are then required to complete the study findings near the end of the last quarter (June) of the third fiscal year."

"In the case of Corncake Inlet, the earliest study funds could be expected would be in the second quarter of fiscal year 1974."

Yaupon Residents Fight To Keep Trailers Away

Residents of Yaupon Beach have taken exception to a plan by Barbee Inc., original developers of the Oak Island resort, to locate a trailer park in the community.

An overflow crowd attended the last regular session of the town board when a Lumberton attorney represented a group of Yaupon Beach residents protesting the proposed, 24-trailer complex. The April meeting of the town board was adjourned after a heated

discussion of the issue.

According to attorneys for Barbee Inc., the corporation acted in good faith in securing a building permit the members thought to be valid. In fact, the permit was issued by the town clerk rather than the building inspector.

The present zoning ordinance states that there shall be one trailer house per lot, which is to contain 6,000 square feet. The Barbee proposal called for the

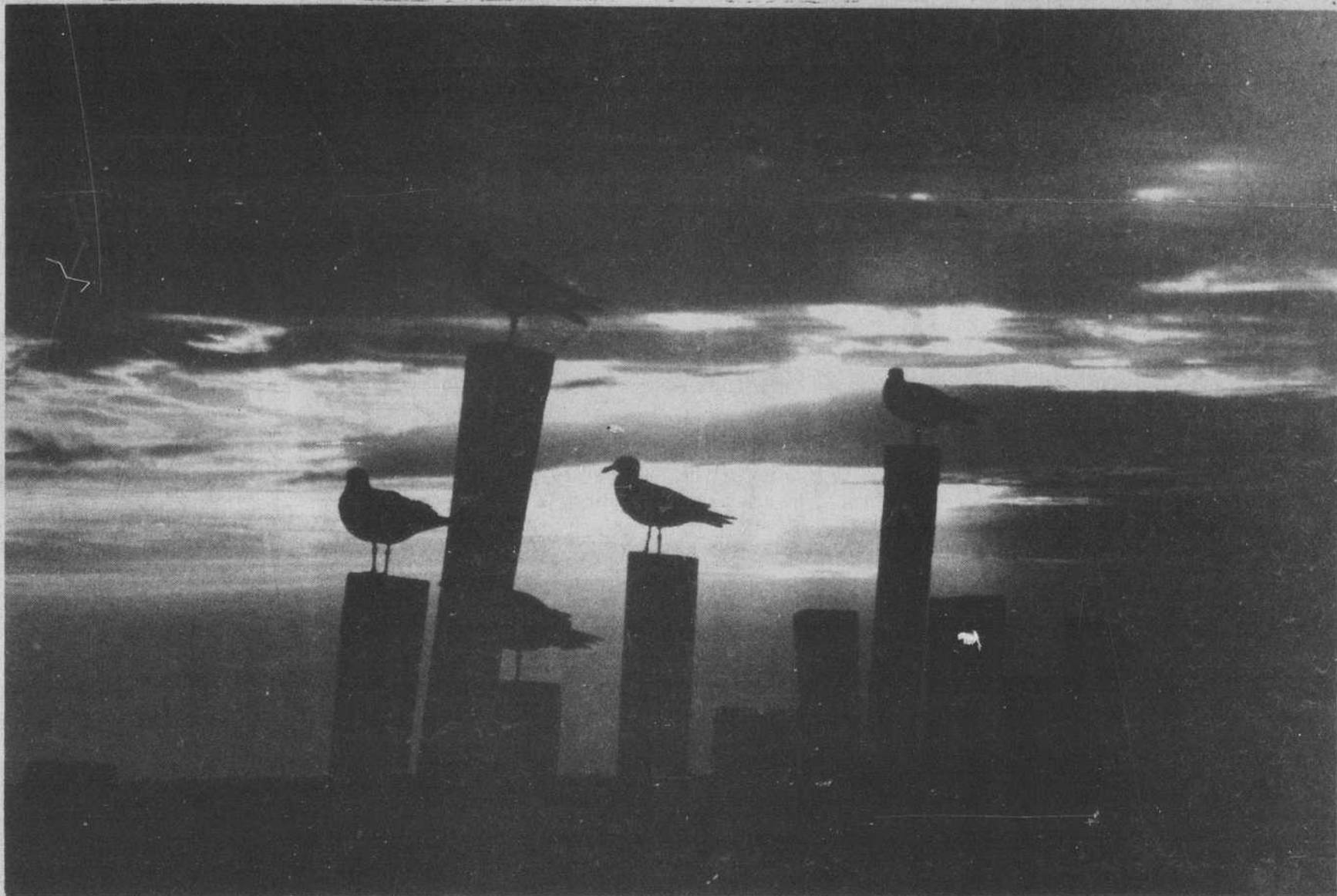
trailers to be located on 34 by 66 foot lots.

The Lumberton attorney offered several suggestions to Yaupon Beach Mayor Clarence Murphy:

Stop the development of the trailer park immediately because the building permit is invalid;

Have adopt new zoning ordinances that assure reasonable use of land;

And, with the commissioners, make a decision (Continued On Page Four)



A Lonesome Vigil

(Photo By Ed Harper)

Time And Tide Hearing On Bridge Set For Wednesday

In our issue for May 19, 1937, there was a front-page photo of the Stuart House, and a headline which classified it as "Famous Landmark In Southport". Dr. M.H. Rourk of Shallotte had been appointed to head the Brunswick County Health Department.

A look at the society page gave us pause: The "Personal" head was upside down — but there was almost a full column of these items; Sears had a special on battery radios; you could buy a new Ford at Willetts Motor Company for \$548 — including front and rear bumpers and spare tires; but this was 35 years ago!

H. Foster Mintz had been elected chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee on the Saturday before our issue for May 20, 1942. There was a war going on but on the home front there was cheerful news: canning sugar and more gasoline would be available for civilian use.

A headline said "Good Price For Alligator Hides"; Saturday was to be "Poppy Day"; and fishermen were turning their talents to freshwater angling. There was a political campaign in progress, and there was an advertisement giving a list of speaking engagements for candidates for the Democratic nominations.

A headline in the May 21, 1947, issue of The Pilot said "Indications Are that State Will Take Caswell". This was a follow-up of a story that the former Army fortification might be used as a link in the state park system. Another successful flower show had been held on the preceding Friday.

Forty-two seniors had been graduated at Shallotte High School; commencement also was in progress at other con-

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The immediate future of the Oak Island bridge project will be determined next Wednesday when a public hearing is held at the Brunswick County-Southport school auditorium.

The 3:30 p.m. hearing will be conducted by the State Highway Commission, and will include an explanation of the proposed bridge and approaches, right-of-way requirements and any comments from the public concerning the project. Town

Manager Jack Hayward of Long Beach has said his community has no objection to the bridge crossing at Yaupon Beach — "just so we go ahead and get a bridge."

Starting now, the proposed \$3.6 million, high-level bridge would still require at least 18 months to complete.

Little opposition is expected to the State Highway Commission project, which will replace a temporary, one-lane floating bridge that is often overcrowded.

especially now during the tourist season.

The old swing-type bridge that had served Oak Island and the communities of Long Beach and Yaupon Beach was destroyed last September 7 when an off-course barge rammed the structure. All vehicular traffic was halted for several days until a ferry service was made available from the Coast Guard station to the mainland.

Gov. Scott failed to declare a state of emergency and created some ill-will that many island resident still harbor. The State Highway Commission has prepared the environmental impact study, required before any further action is possible, and has recommended that the bridge be located just west of the present temporary crossing.

The bridge, which will have a 65-foot vertical clearance, will be a fixed span and will not be opened for Intracoastal Waterway traffic. A recent study by the State Highway Commission stated that the one-lane bridge could accommodate, with little delay, about 7,000 vehicles a day. During the Easter weekend about 5,000 vehicles used the bridge each day, but the bridge was not open to waterway traffic except on schedule.

The lack of a two-lane bridge has not adversely affected island businesses as much as had been expected. Real estate businesses, which deal mostly with mainland tourists, report business as usual.

Aldermen Met Last Thursday

The Southport Board of Aldermen met last Thursday to discuss matters ranging from the use of trailers as temporary residences to the paving of city streets before the Fourth of July.

Mr. and Mrs. G.L. Haight came before the board requesting permission to place their travel trailer as a residence on their property located on West Street, to be used while their home is being constructed. The board advised them that they could not use the trailer for a residence but could use it for an office or for storage.

Alderman W.P. Horne discussed the valuating of property for taxes, also the streets to be worked on and paved this year. After some discussion, a motion was made by Alderman Horne that the paving Committee try to have streets paved before July 4, the city auditor to get prices for paving.

A motion was made by Horne, seconded by Aldermen Hoyle Doshier, that the acting city manager notify C.B. Caroon to cease the construction of the building on his pier until plans are submitted to the board for approval.

W.B. McDougle, chairman of the Planning and Zoning Commission, presented a map showing a development plan of property located on Fodale and Collins Street. There was some question about Collins Street being accepted by the city, but after discussion, Mayor Dorothy Gilbert appointed Aldermen Doshier and Harold Davis to

serve as a committee to investigate this and report as early as possible.

Alderman May McHose requested that Mayor Gilbert remove her name from the Paving Committee, and Mayor Gilbert replaced her with Alderman Davis.

The city auditor advised the board of an increase in the City Hospital Insurance plan. After some discussion, a motion was made by Alderman Harold Aldridge that the city continue to pay the employee hospital and \$1,000 life insurance as in the past. This increase of \$2.20 per employee was effective Monday.

Alderman Davis presented a copy of the ordinance controlling rental property of (Continued On Page Four)

Second Primary

Herman Strong, candidate for county commissioner who finished only 13 votes behind Wayland Vereen in the balloting for the Smithville Township Democratic nomination, has called for a second primary.

The run-off election will be June 3 and will be held in conjunction with second primaries for several state posts, including governor, U.S. Senate and commissioner of insurance. Vereen received 1,603 votes to Strong's 1,590, while a third candidate, Bobby Thorsen, received well over 1,000.

Intersection Signals

The State Highway Commission will proceed with improvements to the US 17-74-76 intersection near Leland, according to a letter to the county board of commissioners from SHC Chairman Larry Faircloth.

The improvements, Faircloth said, "will consist of channelization (lane) revisions and signalization (stoplights)." He thanked the county board for interest shown in the project.



BEAUTIFUL OAK ISLAND, the theme of this sign by the Oak Island Extension Homemakers Club, is meant to encourage a spring — and year-round — clean-up campaign. The sign was designed by Esther Cotton, who was assisted by White Nick Coleman and Yaupon Beach Mayor Clarence Murphy Heath, Alyce Underwood, Jodie Padric, Daisy Slate and Amy watch the finishing touch.