

THE STATE PORT PILOT

A Good Newspaper In A Good Community

VOLUME 44 NUMBER 1 10 PAGES TODAY SOUTHPORT, NORTH CAROLINA JULY 26, 1972 5 CENTS A COPY PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY



DIGGING OF THE CANAL for Carolina Power and Light Company continues along NC 211 near Southport. This week, the dirt barricade blocking water from underneath the bridge was removed by three draglines, the smaller equipment

passing the dirt uphill for the heavier draglines to deposit. The dirt barricades had allowed other equipment working on the CP&L project to pass underneath the bridge without disrupting highway traffic.

Since January Report

Sales Tax For County Shows Major Increase

Another indication of the rapid development of Brunswick County was noted this week by the N.C. Department of Revenue in its report of sales tax collections during June.

A total of \$55,738 was collected here last month under provisions of the local option one-cent sales tax. The money will be added to the April and May collections, making a total of \$145,162 collected during the quarter ending June 30.

The \$143,658 to be distributed (the Department of Revenue withholds 1.036 percent as a collection fee) compares very favorably with the \$76,628 distributed

for the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1971, and the \$106,139 for the quarter ending March 31. The funds will be distributed on an ad valorem

(property tax) basis to the county and nine municipalities: Southport, Long Beach, Yaupon Beach, Bolling Spring Lakes,

Bolivia, Holden Beach, Ocean Island Beach, Sunset Beach and Shallotte.

The county, which received \$152,394 from the first two distributions, will get more than \$119,785 of the funds for the quarter ending June 30. The 1972-73 fiscal year budget, which was lowered 48 cents through increased property valuation and the availability of the sales tax, includes \$250,000 expected revenue from the collection of the sales tax, but that figure will be easily surpassed.

Brunswick County, which enjoyed the greatest gain of the state's 100 counties in sales tax collections in the 12 months prior to January, should retain its top ranking.

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Ceremony Set At Sunny Point

A change of command ceremony will take place on Friday in the headquarters area of the Military Ocean Terminal at Sunny Point when Col. Thomas G. Haake, the present commander, will be relieved of command pending his retirement on Monday and Col. Charles H. Sunder will assume command of the terminal.

Among those participating in the ceremony will be Major General Clarence J. Lang, Commander, Military Traffic Management and Terminal Service (MTMTS); Rear Admiral James E. Forrest, Deputy Commander, MTMTS; Brigadier General Edwin B. Owen, Commander, Eastern Area, MTMTS; the U.S. Navy Band from the Cruiser Destroyer Flotilla 6th Naval District, Charleston, S.C., and military personnel presently assigned at Sunny Point.

Prior to the change of command ceremony, Kenneth Stiller of the Southport Local 1838, International Longshoreman's Association (ILA), and James Underwood, Wilmington Local 1426 ILA, will receive ap-

propriate recognition for exemplary deeds performed during a munitions incident that occurred at Sunny Point on December 18 last year.

The public is invited to attend both the recognition and the change of command ceremonies.

Postal Service To Hold Exam

Applications are being received for substitute rural carriers at the Shallotte post office, according to a release from the U.S. Postal Service.

An examination will be given to establish a register of eligibles from which future substitute rural carrier vacancies in the Shallotte post office can be filled. There are no experience or training requirements, though applicants must take a written test which consists of vocabulary and reading comprehension questions and computations.

An eligible selected for appointment must have a valid state driver's license and a safe driving record. The substitute rural carriers must furnish and maintain at their own expense any vehicle equipment necessary for the handling of the mails, but they are given an equipment maintenance allowance based on the miles traveled each day, or a minimum allowance each day, whichever is greater. Applicants must be at least 18 and there is no maximum age limit.

The substitute rural carriers would perform the same duties as the regular carrier in his absence. Such absences may occur as the result of scheduled days off, leave, sickness, military service or other reasons. Substitute rural carrier starting salaries depend on the length and character of the route.

Application forms are available at the post office in Shallotte and must be submitted by August 10. Eligibility from the examination will be limited to one year, unless after ten months the applicant requests that the eligibility be extended another year.

Time And Tide

Thirty-five years ago this week it was announced that the Coast Guard would send more patrol boats to the area to help supervise the yacht races to be held here in the next few weeks. Several famous yachts were scheduled to be here for the regatta.

It was brought to mind that the first ship built in this country was constructed at Southport. In 1525, a Spaniard, Don Lucas Vasquez de Ayllon, founded a shipyard on the west bank of the Cape Fear River two and one-half miles from Southport and built a merchant ship. It was to take the place of one of his fleet that was wrecked near here.

Thirty years ago this week a change in sponsorship and in personnel of the U.S.O. Building took place as a result of a meeting held here. The public wanted dancing permitted in the

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Nitespot Feud Ends In Death

A coroner's inquest will be held next Monday night to weigh the events leading to the fatal shooting of a Southport man in the Williamson's Crossroads community near Chadburn sometime Sunday morning before day.

Ellis Herring Jr., 28, apparently suffered two bullet wounds claimed his life, and Coroner Buell Lanier has ordered an autopsy to determine exact cause of death.

Held in the Columbus County Law Enforcement Center in lieu of \$5,000 bond is Sherland Roderick Batten, 19, of Rt. 2 Chadburn.

Herring departed the Midway Club driving a pickup truck, followed by another pickup operated by Jimmy Batten of Chadburn, brother of the suspect.

A car, allegedly operated by William Blackwell of Cerro Gordo, was the third vehicle to come to the site of impact from the club, and Sherland Roderick Batten was a passenger in it. An affray ensued during which a gun was fired with bullets striking Herring.

More Shrimp Areas Reopen

The shrimping season reopened Monday in several Brunswick County areas, according to Department of Conservation and Development Director Arthur Cooper.

Shrimping resumed in sections of Bald Head, Cape Bay, Deep and East Beach creeks and the Cape Fear and Elizabeth Rivers, all in the immediate Southport area.

County Files Applications For Water Supply Funds

Representatives of Brunswick County are in Raleigh today (Wednesday), making formal applications for funds to build a proposed \$4.5 million water system.

"We will make formal applications for government funds to finance Phase One of our county water system project," County Manager Jerry D. Lewis said Monday.

The Brunswick County group is meeting with Richard Barnwell, director of Housing and Urban Development for this state;

Ron Ingle, director of the Economic Development Administration in North Carolina, and James Johnson, state director of the Farmers Home Administration.

The formal application follows several months of planning and deliberations between Brunswick officials and representatives of the federal government.

The system includes the pumping of water from Town Creek to the Southport area of Brunswick County.

The proposed system would have a capacity of four million gallons of water per day. This would go to county municipalities and also to industry, most notably Pfizer

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Board Decides No Adjustment

Preparations for the opening of schools next month continued last Monday night when the county Board of Education held a special meeting to discuss the new high schools and to complete faculty assignments.

The board discussed the feasibility of adjusting boundary lines between North and South Brunswick high schools but decided that no adjustments would be made. The board will, however, honor requests made by parents who provide transportation for students. The boundary adjustment in question lies within the Town Creek-Bishop area.

The board accepted as substantially complete the general contract work for the North and West Brunswick high schools. Supt. Ralph King was authorized to withhold payment of \$5,000

for West Brunswick and \$10,000 for North Brunswick, plus sufficient funds to cover all pending liens against contractors for these two schools.

A review of the financial statements of school lunchrooms prior to centralization indicated substantial improvements in lunchroom operation for the fiscal year ending June 30, the first year the lunchrooms operated under centralization. The board also approved a lease arrangement with Brunswick County Friends of the Library concerning space at Leland Middle School to serve as a branch of the county library.

The board accepted resignations from the following teachers: Brunswick County - Southport (Continued On Page Four)



A TEN-FOOT ALLIGATOR was captured near the Clifton Brown residence at Bolivia Saturday night. Wildlife Protector J.M. Newman (who helped tie the reptile to a pine tree where it

was held until being set free Sunday morning) and Protector D.H. Tripp released the alligator near Orton, where Newman reports that 'gators this size are not uncommon.