# THE STATE PORT PILOT

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# North Brunswie Brunswick Brunswich

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION has designated school districts for Brunswick County con-solidated high schools that will be used for the first time this year. According to Supt. Ralph King, busing will be confined to the particular school district, with no cross-busing necessary to achieve racial balance. The board has rejected a

request from residents of the Town Creek section who wanted ther children admitted to the North Brunswick school, which is much closer to their homes than South Brunswick. West is expected to have the largest enrollment (about 900) when school begins August 31; the other schools expect enrollments of 650 to 700.

### Lightship Project Enters Phase II

Phase II of the Frying Pan Lightship project, which includes the sandblasting and painting of the exterior and main deck of the vessel, now

is underway. The first stage of the project to make the lightship a nautical museum was completed just before the Fourth of July weekend when the vessel was moored at the

#### **Group Sets** Farm Tour

Water Conservation District will sponsor a farm tour on Friday, August 18.

site of the old Food City -

bermuda pasture management, water disposal harvester operation, sanitary landfills, and beach erosion James D. Bellamy, Jr., of the

foot of Howe Street in Southport. Responsible for that work were Von Oesen and Associates of Wilmington, Lincoln Construction Company, Diamond Construction Company, McLean Construction Company, Military Ocean Terminal at Sunny Point, the U.S. Coast Guard and Newell's Chain Saw

Also, donations have been received by the finance committee, including contributions from City Cab Company, \$50; Bill Ezzell, \$10; James Tyer, \$10; Mrs. Marcellus Cox, \$10; Cape Fear Realty, \$20; Mary McHose, \$10; Dot Gilbert, \$10; James H. Davis, \$10; Mrs. Ruth McHose, \$100; Suzanne Connell, \$10, City of Southport \$300; Ressie Whatley, \$10; Jo-Jo Fullwood, \$5; Al Martin, \$10;

Cathy Holth, \$10; A.E. Huntley, \$10 and an anonymous \$5 contribution. A newsboy donated 60 cents, while a collection box at the lightship has netted

\$7.71. Phase III of the lightship conversion will include the sandblasting and painting of the afterdeck and radio

"Anyone interested in

# Stiller Cited For Heroism

Kenneth Stiller of Southport, a civilian employee of the Military Ocean Terminal at Sunny Point, has been recognized by the Army for his efforts in averting a disaster in December, 1971 at the depot near Southport.

The award was made in conjunction with a change-ofcommand ceremoney at the terminal last Friday. Col. Thomas Haake, the retiring commander who termed Sunny Point the most efficient terminal in the country, relinquished command to Col. Charles H. Sunder.

Stiller shared the heroism award with James A. Underwood and William E. Stanley. According to reports, the men were assisting in the loading of two million pounds of ammunition aboard a ship when a fire erupted nearby. Stiller was not present at the cermoney but another of the men said, "Our only chance was to stay and fight. You couldn't run far enough to save

yourself." The Wilmington Star, in a Tuesday editorial, noted that another six to eight million pounds of ammunition were stored nearby. "It is difficult to imagine what could happen

fire and exploded," the editor stated.

"The honors paid these men are well-deserved," the editorial continued. "The community should be proud of men who respond when the (Continued on Page Five)

#### **Bond Sales Exceed Goal**

Sales of U.S. Series E and Series H Savings Bonds in Brunswick County for June were \$11,910. January-June sales totaled \$51,301, representing 102.22 percent of Brunswick County's goal of \$50,190.00, according to Rhone Sasser, county volunteer chairman.

Sales of Series E and H Savings Bonds for the first six months of 1972 in North Carolina came to \$42,912,204 - the best since 1945, and 14.7 percent above the same period last year. This represents 59.8 percent of the state's 1972 dollar goal of \$71,700,000. June sales of E and H Bonds came to a record \$6,488,084. Sales of Series E Bonds alone amounted to \$6,375,584, topping all June

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# **School Districts Outlined In County**

"The new consolidated schools will give everybody a fresh start," Brunswick County Supt. Ralph King believes. "A student can say, "This is our school."

With such hopes, teachers and more than 2,000 youngsters expected to occupy the new buildings can look forward to the opening of school later this month -August 28 for instructors and August 31 for students. The schools already are furnished (including desks and chairs) but King said personnel will stay busy all month moving books and other supplies to the new quarters.

South and West Brunswick high schools will ac-commodate grades 9 through 12, but North Brunswick is planned for grades 8 through 12. "It is our feeling, as well as the state's feeling," King "that . the explained, maximum number of students should be exposed to the best possible facilities, and that's what we have done

The "practical capacity" of the high schools is 1,000 for West Brunswick and 750 for the other schools. "We expect a little growing room," the superintendent noted, "but not a great deal."

King said anticipated enrollment for West Brunswick would be 900, compared to 881 at the end of this past school year. South Brunswick, which had 604 at

the Midway". Something was

said, according to the

defendant, about going to

The two groups left the Midway in three vehicles:

Herring, Sammy Hodge, John Sellers and D.C. Hodge

in a white pick-up truck;

Roderick Batten, James

Godwin and John Blackwell in a yellow '67 Ford.

The yellow Ford was last to

leave, with the Herring truck

said Richardson, that after

the vehicles had traveled

about 21/2 miles, Jimmy

Batten attempted to pass the

Herring truck but collided

with the rear end of that

vehicle when Herring

off the Herring truck, and

both came to rest on opposite

(Continued on Page Five)

The Batten truck deflected

slammed on brakes.

Whiteville.

location

pected to house 650, while North Brunswick should have about 650 to 675 (including the eighth grade) — up from the 630 reported at the end of the 1971-72 school term.

"The growth factor is certainly a variable," King said, "but we don't expect as much increase as last year."

Something new for students of the immediate Southport and Shallotte areas will be school bus service, which by state law is provided for students who live more than a mile and one-half from school. The state has approved the purchase of three new buses, to be paid for by the county. High school students and elementary students will ride separate buses with only a few ex-

ceptions. Some high school students will continue to drive buses for younger students, but King said the county Board of Education remains hopeful that adult drivers can be

King said he does not anticipate as much growth in the Southport area as last year, pointing out that the increase of students slowed near the end of the school term. Recent growth of the Southport area is reflected by the increase in elementary school students from 648 to 837 between May, 1971 and the end of school this year. The consolidated school, however, will greatly reduce the overcrowded conditions

closely followed by the Batten truck. The defendant stated, "Last year was a struggle," said King, looking

This year, grades 5 thrugh 8 will be housed in the Brunswick County-Southport Middle School, the building formerly occupied exstudents. Grades K (kindergarten) through 4 will again be placed in make-shift

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## **Probable Cause** In Herring Case

By BEN JUSTESEN

A 30-minute inquest Monday night with only one witness called led to a verdict of probable cause against Sherland Roderick Batten, 19 of Rt. 2 Chadbourn in the shooting death of a Southport

Ellis Herring Jr., 28, of Southport was dead on arrival at Columbus County Hospital July 23, following an early-morning affray in the Williamson's Crossroads area of Columbus County.

Batten was ordered bound over for grand jury investigation by the six-man coroner's jury, deliberated for less than 10 minutes after hearing testimony by SBI Special Agent John Richardson.

Search Finds

**River Victim** 

The Coast Guard has

recovered the body of a Kings

Mountain man who is

believed to have drowned

while swinning near Ft.

The body of Paul Gladden,

A 44-foot boat was

Brunswick County Sheriff

Harold Willetts said the

young man apparently dr-

owned on July 26 while

swimming with friends at the

Baptist Assembly at Fort

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20, of Kings Mountain was

Caswell last week.

Richardson described the events leading up to Herring's death as related to him by the defendant on the afternoon of July 23. According to Richardson, who was called to the hospital at 3 a.m. when the dead man was brought in, Batten's story went as follows:

Roderick Batten, his brother Jimmy Batten, John Blackwell and James Godwin were together on the date in question, having stopped at the Midway Drive-In near Lumber River while preparing to work their newspaper route. Ellis Herring Jr. was present at the scene, along with a

number of other persons. An argument developed between Jimmy Batten and Herring, at which point a security officer identified only as "Mousie" intervened and "invited them to leave

# Time And Tide

Thirty-five years ago this week, plans for the sailing regatta to be held in Southport had been completed and thousands of visitors were expected to attend the event. Judging from an incomplete entry list, between 40 and 50 boats were expected. The Southport harbor had been picked as the ideal location for such a regatta. The newspaper that week was filled with pictures of yachts that were already entered, including an upside down view of the sailboat "Swift".

The Brunswick County tax rate was to remain at \$1.50 for the following year, based on the \$7 million county valuation.

An appeal was made to Gov. Clyde R. Hoey for the recapture of Melvin Mintz, an escaped convict, who had been terrorizing the citizens of Maco by riding up and down the road shooting his pistol; a Reidsville youth had confessed to the breaking and entering of two Brunswick County plantation homes from which he stole \$125 and several valuable articles.

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CLEAN-UP WORK CONTINUES on the Intracoastal Waterway where about 15,000 gallons spilled several weeks ago from tanks leased by Standard Products for the storage of "stickwater," the leftovers of fish, and Bunker C type

oil. A strong southwest wind and quick action by Waccamaw Construction Company kept the oil away from the large marshes lying to the south of the waterway.

The Brunswick Soil and The group will meet at the

Gibson's stores in Shallotte at 2 p.m.
"We plan to see coastal

systems, minimum tillage, forestry practices, tobacco control measures," said organization.

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#### Workshop Held For Instructors An in-service workshop for

kindergarten teacher and assistants was held at the Brunswick County Educational Media Center near Bolivia last week.

The program, funded by ESEA, Title I, was conducted by Miss Eileen J. Miller, consultant in Early Childhood Education for the North Carolina State Department of Pulbic Instruction, and Mrs. Elizabeth Frazier, lecturer in Early Childhood Education at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.

Some of the topics pursed during the week were: Trends, Purposes, Methods,

and Strategies for Developing Good Kindergarten - Early Childhood Programs; Open Education; The Use of Educational Media in Developing Programs for Young Children; Language Experiences in dergarten; Informal Methods and Testing Techniques Used to Indicate Developmental Levels and Needs in Planning Learning Experiences for Young Children; Scheduling;

Music; and Art. The teachers and assistants also used a part of each day to work on materials that can be used in their classrooms (Continued on Page Five)

beacon room and the installation of lights; Phase IV, the renovation of the pilot wheelhouse and the commanding officer's quarters: Phase V, renovation of the lower deck and ward rooms; and Phase VI, renovation of the crew's quarters and all

areas forward of the ward room, including the galley. The 133-foot vessel, which has a 30-foot beam and masts rising 78 feet above the water, was placed at the end of Frying Pan Shoals in 1930 and

remained until replaced by a Texas Tower installation in the sixties. Though not old in comparison with other area landmarks, the lightship has played an important role in the history of the Lower Cape Fear region.

The ship is intended to provide a site for a general museum that would relate the story of the Cape Fear area beacons. The lightship is expected to be popular attourists to the area.

traction, drawing many

spotted in the Cape Fear River near Sunny Point around Friday. dispatched by the Oak Island Coast Guard Station, and Gladden's body was pulled from the river.