

The State Port Pilot

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Ante Up Or Get Out

As this is being written, the Board of Commissioners for Brunswick County has had two meetings since they received their reply to the ultimatum they delivered to the Board of Trustees at Doshier Memorial Hospital demanding that the chairman of the board be fired. No action was taken on the request for funds at either meeting, so it would appear reasonable to assume the commissioners are determined to stick by their demand.

The appeal for emergency funds was made to the commissioners because under its charter the hospital is a joint venture of the County of Brunswick and the City of Southport. The Board of Aldermen for the city approved a contribution of \$10,000 to the hospital, with no strings attached.

Now it would appear to us that the commissioners no longer feel financial obligation for the existing hospital and plan to give all of their support that the hospital charter be amended and that the county be relieved of any further responsibility for Doshier Memorial.

This would not be like giving away some valuable property or investment, for over the years support from the county to the hospital has been both meager and grudging. It might be that to be able to get this burden off their back would come as a relief to the members of that board. So if they are not going to help keep the existing hospital functioning at as high level of efficiency while a new hospital is being planned, constructed and staffed, we submit that it would be well to step out of the picture and leave the job to those who through the years have demonstrated a willingness to help make this

medical facility a place which has rendered valuable service to literally thousands of Brunswick County citizens.

The legislature is in session, so a bill to amend the charter of the hospital can be quickly prepared and passed. As for the token \$200 per month paid to the hospital last year by Brunswick County, we promise there will be no difficulty in picking up this tab from donations of private citizens who feel that Doshier Memorial Hospital is too valuable to be phased out through financial neglect.

Mr. Bert Frink

Most of his friends didn't know that his given names were David Bertram. They called him Bert, or Mr. Bert, depending upon the age differential; but in either case the name was spoken with affection. The late Mr. Frink was held in high esteem by all who knew him.

We do not wish to obscure the memory of this man who was our friend by writing a lot of stock phrases about him. His life was a testimonial to the theory that a man can earn respect, lasting friendships and financial security through hard work, honesty and a concern for the well-being of his fellow man. Also, that he can earn immortality through his children and his grandchildren when he has implanted in them these principles.

Mr. Bert was a plain-spoken man, and whether he was for you or against you there never was any doubt about where he stood.

In thinking back over the years we have known him, we are convinced that this world can well use more men of his caliber.

Something To Crow About



About Books By Dorothy Davis

The following books were given in memory of Mrs. Eula Carr Davis:
Harold and Vickie Aldridge gave THE HOUSE OF KURAGIN by Constance Heaven; Mrs. Annie R. Weeks — ON THE NIGHT OF THE SEVENTH MOON by Victoria Holt; Mrs. Rachel C. Rook — ALOHA MEANS GOODBYE by Naomi Hintze; Mrs. Josie N. Smith — THE MIRACLE AT ST. BURNO'S by Philippa Carr; Clinton and Lorraine Bellamy — SPEAK TO ME OF LOVE by Dorothy Eden;
Mr. and Mrs. W.A. Russ and Jimmy — THE ATHELSON'S by Jocelyn Kettle; Linda and Jane Brittain — TO SERVE THEM ALL MY DAYS by R.F. Delderfield; Les and Mary Bellows — A MARRIAGE OF

CONVENIENCE by Elizabeth Rossiter; Mrs. W. Carlton Price — GENTLE GREAVES by Ernest Raymond;
Kathryn Savage — A GAME OF STATUES by Anne Stevenson; Carol C. Hendricks — WEEP AND KNOW WHY by Elizabeth Ogilvie; Mickey and Pete Hart — THE GAY GALLIARD by Margaret Irwin; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schulze — IRONWOOD by Jennie Melville.
John D. and Doris O'Daniel donated THE NEEDLEWORK BOOK by Wanda Passadore; Ed and Marie Royal and Charles Swan — DECOUPAGE by Dorothy Harrower; Hannon and Florence Templeton — THE DREAM HOUSE ENCYCLOPEDIA by Hub-

bard Cobb; Ed and Toni Oliver — AMERICAN FOLK PAINTING by Mary Black and Jean Lipman;
John and Jessie Swan — THE LETTERBOOK OF ELIZA LUCAS PINCKNEY, 1739-1782; Mr. and Mrs. A.E. Huntley — THE MORAVIAN POTTERS IN NORTH CAROLINA by John Bivins, Jr.; Preston and Irene Bryant — CAPE COD by William Berchen and Monica Dickens; Jimmy and Amaretta Prevatte — GONE ARE THE DAYS by Harnett T. Kane;
Gertrude Y. Loughlin — SHARE MY PLEASANT STONES by Eugenia Price; Mr. and Mrs. M.M. McHose, Jr. — WILD FLOWERS OF AMERICA by H.W. Rickett; Worth B. Ward — LIVING FLOWER ARRANGE-

Not Exactly News

Following a week when the weather was frigid, mild, rainy then cold again, we discovered Sunday that a snowdrift behind Trinity Methodist Church had survived the seven days since last Sunday, when all services were cancelled because of the ice and snow... During a half-time conversation between Keith Jackson and Bill Russell Sunday afternoon a group of kids stood in the background and jumped up and down and made faces. To us this was a sad commentary on priorities, so far as these youngsters were concerned. It would seem to us they would have wanted to come closer and stand quietly to hear every word these important men were saying. In later years it would be much better to be able to recall the time they heard Bill Russell say something to Keith Jackson than to tell their grandchildren how they made a nuisance of themselves on national TV when they were kids.

George Parker is looking around for another Little League baseball diamond. There are plans for a six-team league here this summer and even if they are able to get two diamonds laid out at Taylor Field they still will need one more... Also in prospect is an entry in the softball industrial league next summer. Something will have to be worked out to take care of these players. We have a feeling that sports events are a healthy outlet for youthful energy, and they provide good entertainment for fans.

This is the last week when shell oysters maybe gathered and sold in this area. Better make arrangements to get up with the oyster man... The camellias got it again, what with a one-two punch from 20-degree temperatures during the past ten days... The Julie Andrews Hour is the best show on the air this season and we are glad it has moved to Saturday night.

Two Southport couples left Monday for Florida, seeking a surcease from sleet and snow and sub-freezing temperatures. They are the L.T. Yaskells and the Jim Porterfields, who are visiting relatives. Already down there and thereby escaping last week's wintry blast were the Ray Hons... We hear our friend Rice Gwynn has sold his store and farm property in and around Longwood. He is the best bird hunter we ever saw and has killed more than his fair share of quail. On the other hand, no man in Brunswick County ever has done more to assist Mother Nature in her program of propagation of wildlife.

MENTS by Margaret Davis; Jimmy and Kay Barnes — AMERICAN HERITAGE HISTORY OF ANTIQUES FROM THE CIVIL WAR TO WORLD WAR I;
Dr. and Mrs. Fred M. Burdette — TWO HUNDRED YEARS OF AMERICAN BLOWN GLASS by Helen and George McKearin; G.W. and Lena Fisher — ASTRONOMY by Fred Hoyle.
Paul Merritt and Fran Moore donated BUTTERNUT BILL AND LITTLE RIVER, BUTTERNUT BILL AND THE BEAR, BUTTERNUT BILL AND THE TRAIN, BUTTERNUT BILL AND THE BIG

PUMPKIN by Edith McCall; Neil and Elizabeth Birch — BUTTERNUT BILL AND THE BEE TREE, BUTTERNUT BILL AND THE BIG CATFISH, BUTTERNUT BILL AND THE BEAR, BUTTERNUT BILL by Edith McCall; Mr. and Mrs. Grover A. Gore — BLAZE FINDS FORGOTTEN ROADS AND THE RUMBLE SEAT PONY by C.W. Anderson; Davey, Susan Herring and children — COWBOY SAM AND BIG BILL, COWBOY SAM AND MISS LILY, COWBOY SAM AND FLOP, COWBOY SAM AND DANDY AND COWBOY SAM AND FRECKELS by Edna Walker Chandler.

Letter To The Editor

To The Editor:

It's too bad, but our first letter to the editor since we moved to Southport in June, 1972, has to be one of complaint. We regret this because we agree with the early explorers who called the Carolina coast "the goodliest land."

The house we bought and liked from the start and now occupy is in the 600 block of Fodale Avenue. The weather was dry when we moved in and the realtor assured us that the property was well drained.

Imagine our distress when, in September, our septic tank started to overflow and heavy rains turned our front yard into a lake. We complained to the city and county. Officials agreed to improve the drainage. Nothing happened. Then, in November, a construction firm decided to cut a new street through wooded property about 100 yards downstream, thereby closing off our only drainage ditch. Meantime, just before

Christmas, we left town to spend the holidays with our daughter in Virginia. When we returned on New Year's Eve, the house was surrounded by water, the septic tank was flowing into the crawl space beneath the house — and, worst of all the furnace stopped, literally drowned out. Two of our neighbors had the same trouble.

City officials had the drainage ditch reopened. This lowered the water level little more than one inch. It was not possible to have the furnace restarted.

We and some of our neighbors sought the advice of an attorney. Through him we petitioned the city council for relief and council directed the city manager to "provide immediate relief." City crews took steps to deepen the drainage ditch and the water level was lowered to a point where our furnace could be put back in operation. But that could not be done until Jan. 26 — and January was cold!

On Jan. 19, the regional

sanitarian of the state board of health inspected our property. He declared the situation violated all state health laws. He recommended that our house and those of our immediate neighbors be tied into the city sewage system. He stated that if this had been done when the houses were built, the cost would have been no more than the installation of private sewage systems.

It is now Feb. 18 and we are still living in what amounts to a cesspool. But we love Southport. We have put down our roots here. We hope that action soon will be taken to correct the situation. Or must we seek another "goodliest land?"

Mark and Margaret Connaughton

To The Editor:

Quite often I am reminded of the following, which at this particular time in Brunswick County with much squabble regarding present and proposed hospital facilities seems quite appropo.

As I recall, the writer was someone named Anonymous, the title was HORSE SENSE, and it went something like this:

A horse can't pull while kicking. This fact I merely mention. And he can't kick while pulling, which is my chief contention.

Let's imitate the good old horse and lead a life that's fitting; Just pull an honest load, and then There'll be no time for kicking!

Let the chips fall where they may!

Sincerely,
Jackie H. Stephenson

Teachers Are Feted By PTO

The Southport Elementary School Parent Teachers Organization sponsored a Teachers Appreciation Day last Friday giving the teachers a brunch in the elementary school cafeteria. The PTO provided mother substitutes for all the classes so that all teachers could attend.

Mrs. Bagley, the school secretary, and Mr. Burns, the school principal were also

invited. Those in attendance from the PTO were Mrs. Carolyn DeOre, Teacher Appreciation Day Committee chairman; Mrs. Charlotte Hart, PTO secretary; Mrs. Charline Petty, PTO president; Mrs. Claire McNeill and Mrs. Mary Norwood.

The teachers were given Valentine corsages made by Southport Florist and refreshments were served.

It was February 16, 1938, and it was dead winter. The Pilot that week, in an attempt to warm everyone's spirits, ran a picture of three Southport lovelies (Leila Hubbard, Mercedes Watts and Lois Jane Bussells) decked out in swimming gear, enjoying the warm water of a Ft. Caswell pool. The fame of the hot springs at the fort has been spread through the up-state newspapers, and great numbers of people were coming to enjoy the healthful, refreshing and warm waters.

The civic club was still hard at work trying to invent history; the N.C.S.U.S.U.S.D. of 1812 was planning to erect a monument commemorating the American effort in the war of that date (1812); and the Riegel Paper Company was starting to restore forests with pine seedlings. A walkway was being planned for the Shallotte River bridge, which the local school children had to cross twice daily; and The Pilot had added another feature: "The Saying of Dorcas, the Philosopher."

It was Washington's Birthday, 1943, and a cold spell had hit the county that Monday. The Rev. R.S. Harrison was, in open meetings throughout the county, explaining the use of Ration Book 11. There was to be a county-wide meeting of the AWSOCD to establish a local ground observer corps. It was advertised that travel to the meeting would not be considered pleasure driving.

All Southport motorists had been asked, then told, to black-out a portion of their headlights in accordance with dim-out regulations. Almost \$8,000 worth of Series "E" war bonds had been sold in the county during the last month; Mrs. Ressie Whitley had held a Valentine party; and the Sunday School classes of Southport were making and selling "warsages".

It was Wednesday, February 18, 1948, and the North Carolina Little Symphony had been in the county for three performances. And they had stayed over long enough to be seen camped all over the front page of the Pilot that week. One picture of the conductor, Dr. Benjamin Swalin, and his wife, another of the entire ensemble as it appeared to the local audience.

The Russ food market of Shallotte was offering a prize of merchandise to the customer who suggested the best name for the establishment; W. Memory Ward of Makatoka had slaughtered a hog a few days before which dressed out at 808 pounds (including 270 pounds of lard); and Amos Walton was again seeking the Democratic nomination for Register of Deeds.

Art Newton, an Art Newton painting, and a Mrs. Art Newton photo all made the front page of The Pilot of February 18, 1948. He was painting background scenery for the Baptistry at Antioch Baptist Church. Sharon Methodist

Time And Tide

Church was sponsoring an oyster roast; the Southport churches were observing World Day of Prayer in a union service; and a group from Leland had held religious services at the county jail.

According to the headline in this issue, "Whammy Seen As Aid To Patrolmen." The Whammy was new then, the hapless motorist who was prone to speeding was thenceforth and forever more doomed. It was tournament time in Brunswick County, and the Leland and Bolivia teams were regarded tops in both divisions. Herman Sellers was building a shrimp boat; Bill Oberjohn had found a half-pound mussel shell at Sunny Point; and the county offices were to take Washington's Birthday off.

The Southport Board of Alderman had made a clean sweep of their appointees to the board of trustees of Doshier Memorial Hospital, and the editor had had something to say about the bad manners — if not bad judgment — that had been used by the city fathers. The city also was planning a repair job on the boat-loading ramp at the foot of Howe Street.

James C. Bowman, Southport attorney, was serving as president of the Southeastern North Carolina Beach Association and had presided over the annual banquet session; Southport was to play host to the Brunswick County Basketball Tournament; and the unusual appearance of the Aurora Borealis here had resulted in three false alarms to the Fire Department in one night.

A capping ceremony for a graduating class of Gray Ladies at Doshier Memorial Hospital was the front-page picture in The Pilot for February 20, 1963. The Second Annual Washington's Birthday Fox Hunt was to begin the next day.

Oyster season had been extended to March 15 because of the unusually bad weather that winter; three Southport girls were the latest entrants in the forthcoming Miss Brunswick Pageant; and Leland would host the County Cage Tournament that year.

Five years ago this week tests were being made in the Southport area to determine if the soil could provide sufficient load-bearing qualities to accommodate the proposed CP&L nuclear power plant. Borings would be made as deep as 600 feet.

Construction of the Trinity Methodist Church educational building was underway; a measles inoculation clinic sponsored by the Health Department was being held at the Southport High School gymnasium; a county wide meeting was to be held to discuss the possibility of a school bond issue; the City of Southport had received a \$9,200 grant for planning assistance; and the best site in Brunswick County for a shopping center was identified in the Not Exactly column as the US 74-76-17 intersection at Leland.