

# Waterfront



We were talking to one of the members of the Merritt Dredging Co. crew tending the line on the maintenance project in the Cape Fear River opposite the site of the old quarantine station above Southport.

"Last night I saw the biggest buck deer I ever saw in my life standing right over there," he said, pointing to a clump of myrtle bushes about 50 yards away. "He had a head full of horns, and he didn't act scared at all. When he left he didn't go bolting away, he just sort of walked off in the dark."

That was a pretty good description of a strange new resident of an area no more than one mile from the courthouse.

When bridegroom John Henry stood in the receiving line at a reception honoring him and his new bride Saturday afternoon he wore something unusual besides the tuxedo he had on. It was a legion, securely locked to his leg by one of the post nuptial celebrants, and at the end of a chain dangling from this piece of hardware was an anchor. Needless to say, it made moving around more than a little bit awkward, so it actually was no job at all to keep John in the receiving line.

Later when he went to change into his traveling clothes there was some concern that he never would be able to get his pants off over the flukes of the anchor, but in a few minutes he was back all dressed up and ready to go — well, almost. He had managed to change his pants, but he still had the legion securely locked in place. When asked how he had managed the change, John replied, "I knew something about anchors they didn't

know. When it's hooked on the chain it is easy to uncouple."

And if you wonder how a wedding got written up in Waterfront, let us explain that the bridegroom is an old Navy man, having completed a four-year hitch last fall. Incidentally, part of that time was spent in Vietnam.

Clint Bellamy was telling us this week about a catch of 76 trout he and his guests made Friday while fishing on a wreck near the Cape Fear River bar. "You won't find that happening many times on February 1," he declared.

The next afternoon a staff photographer took a picture of a catch of 39 big bluefish which had been brought into the Southport Boat Harbor.

## RDC Director Addresses Club

The Indian Trail Tree Chapter of the American Business Women's Association held its regular monthly meeting at the Daughters of America Building in Southport.

Mrs. Ruth Harrington introduced Jackie Stephenson, executive director of the Resources Development Commission for Brunswick County, as the guest speaker.

Stephenson's talk began with a short discussion on how the Resources Development Commission was formed and its main purpose. He then gave a talk



## The Way It Was

Back in the late 1930's Southport High School had a band, the first in Brunswick County. The director was Rev. A.L. Brown and the instruments were begged, borrowed and antiques. See if you can identify the members. Stopping Down: Dan Early Wells, Letha (Arnold) Warth, Joe Young Christian; two small boys: Bobby

Jones and Bobby Brown; second row: John Julius Swain, Carl Ward, Jr., Jimmie Hornsby, Harold Aldridge, John Hall, Lulu (Brown) McKeithan; Back row: Rev. Brown, Paul Doshier, Gilda (Arnold) Rogers, Martha Grey (Brown) Willis, Joe Sam Loughlin.

## Islanders Plan Valentine Dance

The Long Beach Volunteer Fire Department needs to use

well as the industries themselves.

Stephenson ended his talk by touching lightly on the new prospective industries that are interested in developing in Brunswick County.

Mrs. Harrington was the vocational speaker for the month. She gave an informative talk on her duties as a Public Health Nurse for Brunswick County.

over are urged to be in attendance.

Chairmen for the February party will be Clyde and Pauline Payne, with Bob and Dorothy Bloomfield and Bernard and White Heath serving as hostesses and program committee.

## FARMERS MEET

There will be a National Farmers Organization meeting Feb. 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the Brunswick County Agricultural Extension office, Supply.

# Leland News

By Margaret Bordeaux

Mrs. J.L. Blake was in Raleigh last Monday to do some research work for the Brunswick County Historical Society. Anyone desiring to be a member of the historical society can contact her. Their next meeting will be February 11 at Brunswick Town. Mrs. Ardash Goldstein, area coordinator for the Bicentennial Commission, will show a film, "76 and Forward".

We would like to welcome C.E. Wicker and Edith Simicko who have recently opened the Lamp Lighter Antique Shop. It is located just beyond the Camellia Motel. Hope everyone will stop by and take time to browse around.

How about the American Hong Chung Kung Fu Society that Mike Holmes has started? Mike is the instructor and is ready to take applications. At the present time they are meeting at the fire department building. Good luck with the karate, Mike.

North Brunswick High School had an exciting day last Thursday — at least the juniors. They ordered their class rings. Hope all of you will make the best of this year and enjoy next year to the fullest. You may not realize it but time is going faster than you think.

Alvin Dresser from Charlotte visited Mrs. Georgia Dresser over the weekend.

Mrs. Goings David has undergone surgery in New Hanover Hospital recently.

A stork shower was given for Mrs. Bonnie Bozeman at Harold's Fish Camp Tuesday night with approximately 20 ladies attending.

Kenneth and JoAnn Rogers from Bladenboro were visiting Mr. and Mrs. O.O. Rogers this past weekend.

Mrs. Elizabeth Anderson is

a patient in New Hanover Memorial Hospital. She hopes to be home soon.

Ed Ganey is also a patient at New Hanover Hospital. We hope he too will soon be home.

Now that it is February and I am sure the ground hog saw his shadow, I am wondering how everything is going to be. The prices are still climbing and gas still getting higher. Guess most of the farmers have already started with their tobacco beds and so forth despite the rains we are having.

Next, we begin to see a few gardens getting started around here if we can get some seed. Another thing, husbands and boy friends, don't forget! February 14 is Valentine's Day for the ladies. Watch for next week's news and the recipe for fresh strawberry pie.

## Tide Table

These are the tide times for Southport. For Cape Fear, subtract 33 minutes for high tide and 39 minutes for low tide; for Long Beach and Holden Beach, subtract 29 minutes for high tide and 23 minutes for low tide; and for Tubbs Inlet, subtract 19 minutes for high tide and 23 minutes for low tide.

HIGH	LOW
Thursday, February 7	9:07 a.m. + 2:57 a.m.
Friday, February 8	9:56 a.m. + 3:48 a.m.
Saturday, February 9	10:43 a.m. 4:38 a.m.
Sunday, February 10	11:30 a.m. 5:27 a.m.
Monday, February 11	12:16 p.m. 6:17 a.m.
Tuesday, February 12	12:56 a.m. 7:09 a.m.
Wednesday, February 13	1:44 a.m. 8:03 a.m.
Thursday, February 14	2:31 a.m. 8:57 a.m.

+indicates tides above 4.4 feet

## Southport's 'Sea Captain'

# New Motel Built On Faith -- And A Solid Foundation

The Sea Captain Motor Lodge in Southport is a new and modern facility which was sold before it was completed, but it stands as a monument to the foresight and determination of a Southport couple, Jerry and Peggy Giles.

The Sea Captain is a 32-unit motel, 12 units of which are efficiency apartments. It has a 28' x 68' pool, an attractive office complete with living accommodations for the manager, and a laundry facility capable of handling linen for the motel. It is located off West Street near the Southport Boat Harbor and there is room for expansion when the need arises. That situation already is indicated by the early demands for space.

"We had all of our efficiency apartments engaged before they were completed," Peggy said this week. "We have been running about 85-percent occupancy thus far, and on one or two nights we have had to turn people away."

When you talk to Jerry and Peggy about the motel they talk in terms of current business, this despite the fact they have sold it to the LeGrange Realty of Fayetteville, D.P. Bruton is one of the principal purchasers, and his son Ronnie will be the manager.

"We are just as much interested in how it gets along as we were before we sold it," Jerry declared. "We set a goal to build a first-class motel for Southport, and we did. It makes us feel good to see it get off to a good start."

Everything has been completed except installing rugs and placing furniture in a half-dozen rooms. "That ought to be done before the end of this week," he predicted. "We should be ready for a grand opening in a couple of weeks."

Pre-opening, or winter rates, have been \$16.50 per

night for the rooms and \$18.50 for the efficiency apartments. "We may have to make an adjustment later," Jerry said, again implying his continued interest in the operation of the motel.

No provision has been made for serving meals, at least not yet. Negotiations now are underway to build a

restaurant which also would afford meeting and conference room space.

"These things may come later," Jerry predicted, "just like I think we may want to add 32 rooms across the back of the property."

The motel was named the Sea Captain in honor of Peggy's father, the late Capt.

Crattie Arnold, whose principal fame was as a boat-builder. The entire motel complex has been erected on land that has been in the Arnold family for two generations.

Jerry and Peggy have worked as a team ever since they were married. For several years he operated a

shrimping and fishing boat, and Peggy went out as his mate. Later they sold their boat and built and operated a grocery business at the Southport Boat Harbor.

When they sold this business they set in with a year of research and planning for the construction of a modern motel which would

help attract more fishermen and vacationers to Southport. Once they had decided what they wanted there were many negotiations necessary to make it possible. "In a lot of towns people like me and Peggy wouldn't get a chance to do something like this," Jerry said.

They started out with an

application for rezoning, and at first they met with stiff opposition. Next they had to negotiate for financial backing, which they were able to work out with Waccamaw Bank & Trust Co.

"We have nothing but praise for Robert Howard," Jerry declared. "He really went to bat for us. He told us we'd have to have an architect, so we got Ballard, McKim and Sawyer, and they have been fine people to work with."

But both Jerry and Peggy agree that the key to the success of the entire operation has been Walter Sellers, the builder. "He has done a mighty fine job on the building," they said.

At least one sub-contractor agrees. He is the South Carolina contractor who furnished the concrete slabs which comprise the second floor and the roof. "He told me it was the only job he ever had where the fit was perfect," Sellers said. "We didn't have to shim it anywhere."

This Supply resident enjoys an excellent reputation as a builder, and he is proud of the Sea Captain. It is his biggest undertaking, although he has constructed several churches and was the contractor for the Ocean Trail Rest Home in Southport.

The Giles are proud of him as a builder, too. "One thing happened that proved how good the motel was built," Peggy recalled. "They were putting the concrete roof slab on and they sent a crane that was too small to lift the 13-ton weight into place. It fell and cracked all to pieces, but it never hurt the walls or the floor or anything else Walter had built."

We asked Peggy and Jerry if they had spent the night in the new motel and they said they hadn't. "But I've been swimming in the pool," Peggy said.

She remembered that the

day they filled the pool for the first time some of her playful relatives had pushed her in the water. "It felt so good I stayed in swimming for three hours," she said.

One other unusual element played a part in the successful completion of their ambitious project. That was prayer.

"We were on the prayer list at the Pentecostal Church," Peggy said. "One night when we were very much down about the whole thing I told Jerry not to worry, that if God wanted us to build the motel he would find a way to get the people who were opposing us to stop. He must have heard our prayers."

There was hard work, too; and strange as it seems it was Peggy doing a lot of the manual labor. Jerry is still recovering from a serious operation, so his help consisted principally of thinking up ways to solve the perplexing problems which kept coming up.

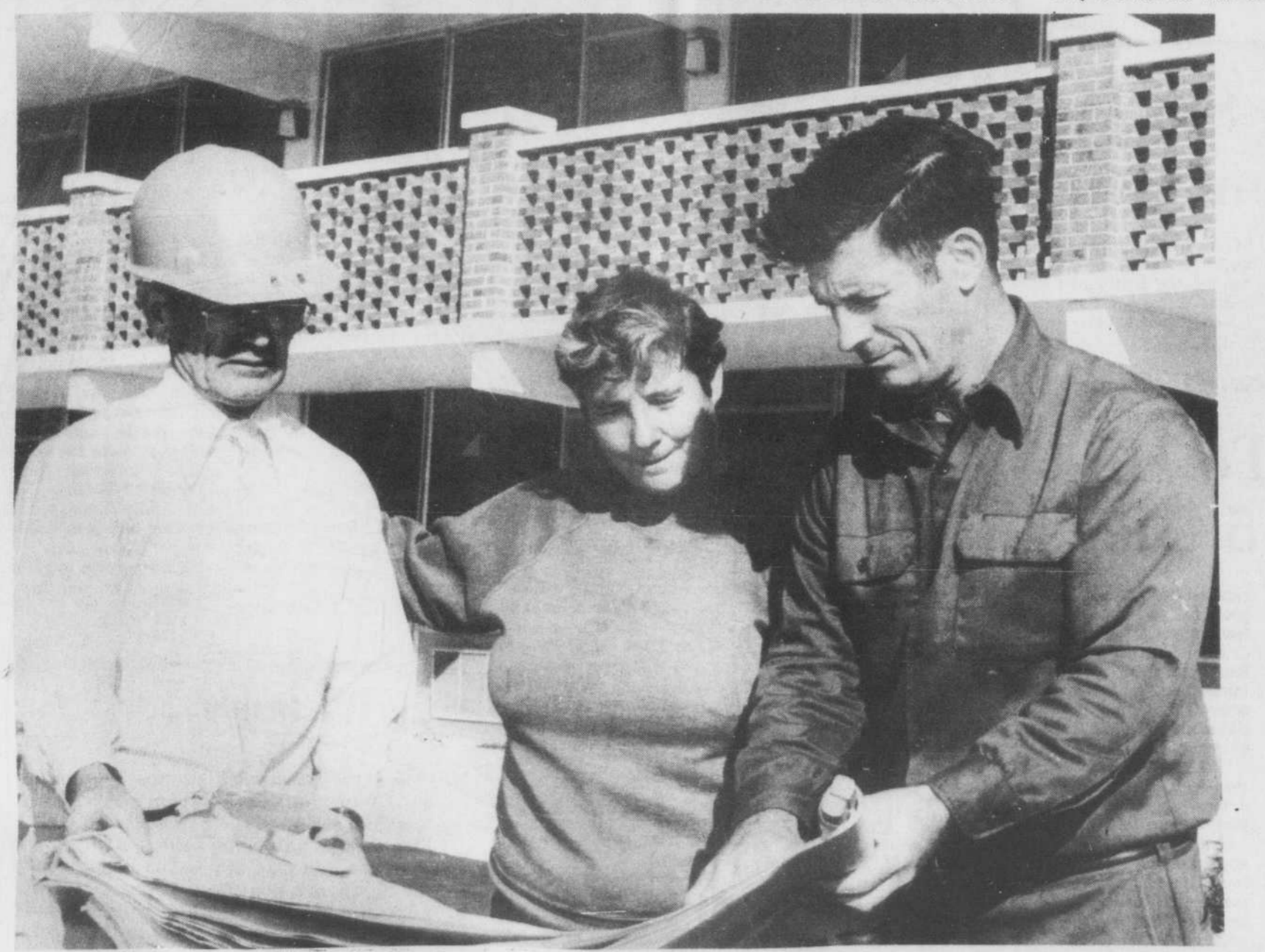
"Neither one of us ever drew one cent from our construction loan," said Peggy with pride. "We just pitched in and helped where we could because we wanted to see it built."

Jerry summed it up. "It wasn't just a hobby," he said. "It was a goal."

The faith of the bank, the skill of the builder and the faith of this couple have meshed to bring a significant improvement to the City of Southport.

## REVIVAL PLANS

A Church of God revival will be held Feb. 10 through Feb. 18 at the Daughters of America Building on Howe Street, Southport. The Rev. A.L. Todd will be the guest speaker at the 7:30 p.m. services, and special singers and musicians are invited. Everyone is welcome.



LOOKING OVER PLANS for the Sea Captain are, left to right, builder Walter Sellers and Peggy and Jerry Giles. The Southport couple originated plans for the modern 32-room

facility, and although they recently sold the motel they still hold a special attachment for it.