

# THE STATE PORT PILOT

A Good Newspaper In A Good Community

VOLUME 45 NUMBER 41

24 PAGES TODAY

SOUTHPORT, NORTH CAROLINA

MAY 1, 1974

10 CENTS A COPY

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY



ANOTHER STEP towards the conversion of Frying Pan Lightship into a nautical museum was taken this week with the construction of a reception-type enclosure on the ramp leading to the vessel. The completion of the project in time

for the Fourth of July celebration should pose a stiff challenge for volunteer workers; nonetheless, the fresh-red paint job on the Frying Pan has added to the appeal of the Southport waterfront.

## Bill Blake, Ellen Richards Cited For Outstanding Work

Southport Jaycees and Jaycettes held their annual Installation Banquet on Saturday at the Jaycee building in Southport.

The purpose of the banquet was to install new officers for the coming year and to present awards of

achievement and certificates of appreciation to individuals and businesses in the community that have provided valuable assistance to the local organization.

Newly-elected officers for the Jaycees are: president, Steve Dixon; first vice -

president, Tommy Gilbert; second vice - president, Rick Johnstone; secretary, Doug Ledgett; treasurer, Lee Aldridge; director, Jack Burnish; director, Hammie Ballantine, state director, John Richards.

Newly-elected officers for

the Jaycettes are: president, Hazel Trott; first vice - president, Kris Ballantine; second vice - president, Emily Blake; secretary, Sara Burnish; treasurer, Susie King; state director, Patti Lewis.

The officers were installed by Southeast Regional National Director Bill Ezzell. Additionally, several new members were formally installed at the banquet: Bill Furpless, Dave Whitten, Bill Hegler, Frank Chandler and Don Ward.

Other new members eligible but not installed at the banquet were Hank Mathis, Larry Calhoun, Tom Harper, Richard Owens, Bill Evans, Jerry Dilsaver,

(Continued On Page 11)

## Allen Joins Pilot Staff

A former Brunswick County newsman has joined the staff of The State Port Pilot.

William Gaston (Bill) Allen, 35, will serve as a member of the staff while Bobby Hill serves three months' active duty at Ft. Benning, Ga. Hill was a member of the Army ROTC program at N.C. State and joined The Pilot staff in February, 1973.

Allen, who was a member

(Continued On Page 24)

judge, board of county commissioners and sheriff.

Voters in the county also will nominate candidates for the U.S. Senate, the U.S. House of Representatives and state judicial posts.

In addition to nominating candidates to run in the fall general election, Brunswick County voters will elect three members to the Board of Education Tuesday.

Incumbents Wilbur E. Rabon, May W. Barbee and

John T. Madison are being challenged for their Board of Education seats by Barbara (Bobbie) Yount, Carter T. Lambeth, James R. Prevatte, Franklin Randolph and Thomas F. Gray.

Most observers in both political parties believe the races for sheriff and the board of commissioners will highlight the voting in the Brunswick County primaries Tuesday.

In the Republican primary,

Incumbent Sheriff Harold Willetts is being challenged by Alvie E. Lewis.

D.E. Tripp, J. Walton Willis and Herman Strong are battling it out in the Democratic primary for sheriff to earn the right to meet the Republican winner in the fall.

Eight Republicans including all five incumbents, are fighting for five seats on the board of county com-

(Continued On Page 24)

## Board Of Education Vote, Too

# Politics '74 First Round To Be Contested Tuesday

## Lackey Plans Expansion, Selects Davis New V-P

James W. Davis, former executive director of the N.C. State Ports Authority, has been named vice-president of development at Lackey Industries at Leland, Company President E.G. (Red) Lackey announced this week.

President Lackey also announced that Lackey Industries will undergo a \$3 million expansion program which will increase employment at the plant site northwest of Leland.

President Lackey reported

that the contracts for the major expansion of storage facilities at the warehouse development will be signed within two or three weeks. Employment will increase to 250 persons, he noted.

Vice-President Davis' first assignment at Lackey Industries will be to work with the expansion project.

"Davis has had considerable background for this," President Lackey noted.

Davis, who is well-known in Brunswick County because of his work with the Southport Boat Harbor, resigned from the SPA early in the spring after serving as executive director for 12 years.

Before coming to North Carolina in 1962, Davis was secretary-treasurer and director of planning of the Maryland Port Authority for six years. He served as executive director of the Port of Baltimore Commission from 1951 to 1956. Prior to accepting the Baltimore Port position, Davis, who is a 1937 graduate of North Carolina State University in Raleigh, was a civilian engineer with the Baltimore district of the Corps of Army Engineers for 14 years.

President Lackey said a major portion of the expense of the project will go for the

(Continued On Page 24)

## Leland Bridge Work Coming

An \$8 million construction contract will be let for two dual-lane bridges over the Brunswick River near Leland as soon as the Department of Transportation (DOT) receives the required Coast Guard permit, it was announced this week.

Division Engineer T.W. Funderbunk said the project will replace the present two-lane bridge, which currently serves about 20,000 cars and trucks each day.

He estimated that the project, which is part of a seven-year highway program, will take almost three years to construct. Some \$1.7 million in right-of-way has already been secured for the project.

Division Engineer Funderbunk reported that the

bridge construction will be coupled with a 1.6-mile, four-lane development which will link the project with the four-lane construction of U.S. 74-76 near Leland. The paving contract is due for bids next month, he said.

The only proposed dredging included in the project will be in Brunswick River and Alligator Creek to provide fill for the four-lane road construction.

Since the project was first proposed, District Engineer Funderbunk said, several changes had to be made because of the environmental statement. One change involved lengthening the bridge to place the abutments further away from the river banks. Fill will be required at each end of the structure.



ELLEN RICHARDS AND BILL BLAKE were recognized for outstanding Jaycette and Jaycee achievement during annual Installation Banquet activities Saturday night at the Southport Jaycee Building.

## Bud Dixon Killed, Buried; Security Measures Taken

Quiet and peaceful Southport looked for a few hours Sunday like a town under military occupation as scores of law enforcement officers from a half-dozen agencies came here not only to honor Louis David Dixon but to insure that his funeral services would not be disrupted nor members of his family harmed.

Following the death of this Southport man last Wednesday near Nogales, Arizona, there had been threats of reprisal. Offices of the U.S. Customs Service guarded the body throughout the ordeal and were backed up by the FBI, state, county and municipal officers

numbering more than 50. Dixon, an agent with the U.S. Customs Service, was killed during an arrest attempt last Wednesday when he was struck in the upper chest by a shotgun blast at close range. Also killed in this Mexican border incident were his partner Charles J. Brokinski, and Michael Williams, believed to have been the driver of a pick-up truck in which 200 lbs. of marijuana was seized.

Dixon's body arrived at New Hanover County airport Sunday morning under heavy guard. Security precautions also had been taken at the terminal before his arrival. The trip from Wilmington to

Southport was made in a funeral cortage comprised of more than a dozen vehicles bearing armed law enforcement officers. Prior to the arrival here of the body, arrangements had been set up to have guards on duty at Gilbert's Funeral Service and at Trinity United Methodist Church where services were held at 4 o'clock that afternoon.

Armed members of the U.S. Customs Service stood guard over his body at all times.

Following the services in Southport, the body was carried on Monday to Clyde, a mountain community near

(Continued On Page 24)



THREE GRANDCHILDREN of the late Leo Dowling, Sr., presented blood pressure testing equipment in his memory to Doshier Memorial Hospital on Monday. (Mrs. Dowling was the former Ellen Doshier.) Left to right, above, Miss Berthlene Warnette, nurses' assistant, and Mrs. Mary Jo Tyre, director

of nurses, accept the equipment from the donors, Mrs. Johnnaie Dowling Carroll, Mrs. Lee Dowling Rogers and Steven Steele. The equipment consisted of three sphygmomanometers and three stethoscopes.