

Time and tide

50 years ago

It was June 9, 1943, and the preceding Saturday had brought the first 100-degree temperature of the year. The often-repeated Theodosia Burr legend was again told in this issue of the *Pilot* -- with a new twist. A Wilmington photographer had encountered one of two pirate-ghosts related to the story while on a field trip to Bald Head Island. Unfortunately, no pictures were obtained. The menhaden boats had been whistling indications of good catches; lands near the Fort Caswell road had been found to contain a high percentage of iron ore; and our "Not Exactly News" editor had praised highly the Harry James Orchestra.

Brunswick County had received two superlatives from Carl Goerch in the latest issue of *The State* magazine: Southport had been selected by the journalist as the best spot in North Carolina for retired residence, and Orton Plantation had been voted the most beautiful spot in eastern North Carolina. Two surgical dressing rooms were in operation in Southport; M. R. Sanders (Lt. Cdr. USNR) and his family had returned to Southport from the West Coast; and Judge Q. K. Nimocks had ordered the sale of the WB&S Railroad by auction to be held in July.

40 years ago

It was June 3, 1953, and the headline read "Fourth of July Will Be Observed Here". History students from Wilmington College had visited historic Clarendon Plantation on the preceding Monday. On this same day (Wednesday) the Southport-Myrtle Beach Outboard Marathon was to be held; the prospects for a good blueberry crop were good; and Billy Sanders, who had just graduated from Georgia Military Academy, had received a Naval ROTC scholarship to Tulane.

A mascot jaybird had failed to survive the week of Vacation Bible School at Southport Baptist Church; Capt. Howard Victor returned to Southport with a new sports fishing boat; and on the last page that week a "remarkable" slave story was told.

30 years ago

The *Pilot* for June 5, 1963, had a front-page story and picture of the opening of the new telephone exchange for Long Beach. Dr. M. H. Rourke of Shallotte had been elected a member of the board of directors of Lions International during the state convention in Asheville.

Martha Rabon had been elected Dairy Princess for Brunswick County; Mrs. C. A. Graham had been a big winner at the annual Southport Flower Show; and the Southport Jaycees had produced a valuable promotional brochure which was ready for distribution.

20 years ago

A front-page story in the *Pilot* for May 30, 1973, reported the arrival of Dr. Romeo B. Atienza as a member of the surgical staff at Doshier Memorial Hospital in Southport. Graduation exercises were scheduled at the three new consolidated high schools, with the baccalaureate sermons set for the following Sunday.

The editor had proclaimed the advent of another tourist season and urged his fellow citizens to do some final clean-up efforts during the last days of May in preparation for the influx of visitors; two prominent Brunswick County teachers were retiring -- Mrs. Frances Stone of Shallotte and Mrs. Muriel Lennon of Supply; the editor had just returned from a visit to Greece, so there was an editorial, "Waterfront" and "Not Exactly" devoted to travelog topics.

15 years ago

Tom Rabon had received the Democratic nomination to the House of Representatives in the second primary election, and that was a headline story on the front page of the *Pilot* for May 31, 1978. On the state level, John Ingram had won the nomination for U. S. Senate and had carried Brunswick County.

A swordfishing fleet was operating out of Southport and was shipping impressive loads of these fish to northern markets -- 23,000 pounds on one truck; a disagreement at Mill Creek Baptist Church had been resolved with all members back in good standing by action of the Superior Court; and we had a front-page photo of Memorial Day ceremonies conducted by the Veterans of Foreign Wars at Southport cemetery.

10 years ago

A federal grant of \$846,000 for the paving project at Brunswick County Airport had been received and work was scheduled to begin within the next 60 days. That was a headline story on the front page of the *Pilot* for June 1, 1983. Our front-page picture was an impressive scene of Memorial Day services which had been held in the old Southport cemetery.

A "Sanford and Son" auction for the benefit of the N. C. Fourth of July Festival was scheduled for Saturday of that week; the Brunswick County commissioners had given the old tax office building on Moore Street in Southport to Doshier Memorial Hospital for a permanent location for the Flea Market; and on the sports page we had a photo of Quinton McCracken with announcer Foxy Howard, who was congratulating him for an over-the-fence home run in little league play -- the first such blast at the recently opened Stevens Park.

5 years ago

South Brunswick had won the Waccamaw 2A Conference baseball championship with 27 victories and no defeats and our front-page photo for the week of May 27, 1988, showed the squad celebrating at a dinner given in their honor. Seven pretty young ladies were to compete for the Fourth of July Festival Queen crown in a pageant on Saturday night of that week and we had all of their pictures in the paper.

Paula Almond of Brunswick Community College had been selected as the outstanding student of the Eastern Division of North Carolina Community Colleges and we had her photo in the paper; there was a work progress picture of the bridge at Middleton Street in Long Beach; and a 62-pound white marlin had won the Bald Head Island Billfish Tournament held during the past weekend.

Health chairman resigns post

By Terry Pope
County Editor

The chairman of the Brunswick County Board of Health has abruptly resigned.

H. J. ("Skip") Davis, a chiropractor from Ocean Isle Beach, stepped down from his post last Tuesday.

The resignation, effective immediately, comes just one day after the health department was hit with heavy funding cuts in the county's proposed 1993-94 budget.

He was serving his second term as chairman, having been re-elected to the position earlier this year.

In a letter dated May 18 to Don Warren, chairman of the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners, Davis said he can "no longer devote the time required to do an effective job" on the board.

He cited his growing chiropractic business at Ocean Isle Beach and his membership on the chiropractors' state board of directors as reasons he no longer has time to serve.

At a special meeting Monday, the health board selected Maliston Stanley as chairman and Brad Kerr as vice-chairman.

Warren, a member of the health board, said Monday he hated to see Davis step down.

Davis submitted his resignation one day after interim county manager John Harvey presented a proposed 1993-94 county budget that includes some personnel cuts at the health department.

Health officials received permission to revise and to resubmit the department's budget request. A special meeting was held Monday to adopt a revised plan.

"We asked commissioners for the opportunity to cut the budget in areas

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that were more appropriate," said Michael Rhodes, health director.

Some personnel positions which board members requested were cut from Harvey's recommendation, including a soil scientist and clerk at the animal control division.

The revised plan chops five percent off last year's county allocation, asks that all current positions be funded and does not ask for any additional personnel.

"A public health department is about people seeing people," said Rhodes. "We were not going to be able to have public health doing that in an appropriate way."

Harvey's recommendation for the health department cut a requested \$2.1 million to \$1.8 million. Last year the department received \$1.9 million.

The 1993-94 proposal slashed animal control's requested \$259,721 to \$178,221; cut central administration's requested \$679,044 to \$637,259; and cut environmental health's \$465,396 to \$311,824.

Davis did not return phone calls made to his office this week.

Completion is months away

Auditorium still is upstaged

By Marybeth Bianchi
Feature Editor

It will be approximately two months before work is completed at the Odell Williamson Auditorium at Brunswick Community College.

The college trustees learned that they are still about four weeks away from a pre-final inspection and it will be another two to four weeks before the final details of the job are completed, architect Ken Phelps reported at trustees' monthly meeting last week.

"The contractor is still not putting the manpower on the job we'd like to see. They still work on a 40-hour standard week," he said.

Chairman Dave Kelly pointed out that the bonding company has not recognized the college's declaration that Hatcher Construction Co. is in default of its contract.

But board attorney Jim Prevatte said Tuesday that shouldn't cause too many problems. There are still some matters to be worked out, but he noted that as a result of the default declaration the project is being completed by Hatcher Construction.

The company has placed a new project superintendent, John Sing, on the job and he is handling repairs and problems as they happen, Phelps reported.

In other business: Trustees accepted a \$3,545 bid to finish an overflow parking lot serving the auditorium with coquina instead of paving it.

Trustees approved the hiring of Portia Starks of Lake Waccamaw as library technical assistant at an annual salary of \$16,288. Starks is currently a library assistant with Columbus County schools.

In another personnel matter, president Mike Reaves said he is interviewing six candidates for the post of administrative assistant to the president.

Trustees accepted the resignation of Glenn Barefoot, effective June 1, as resource development officer and director of the college's foundation, a position she has held a little over a year. She plans to return to her family's furniture business in Wilmington.

President Reaves told trustees the college's cafeteria received a grade of 94 and an A rating following a recent inspection by the Brunswick County Health Department. The Cook's Nook is operated by BCC Brunswick Interagency Program.

The president is recruiting individuals to serve on an auditorium board of directors who will be

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Ken Phelps
Architect

charged with making policy affecting the operation of the facility and setting rates for its use. That board, made up of area banking, government, business and industry representatives, will report to the college's president and board of trustees.

A separate advisory council made up of more than 20 individuals from the local arts community will be in-

involved with programming and fundraising, Michael Sapp, auditorium manager explained.

Trustees learned that the college's Student Government Association, the student services staff and the library staff are working together to develop a student identification system. Cards issued to students and staff will also be used to check books out of the college's library.

Trustees approved a \$2 fee that will be charged to other Brunswick County residents who wish to check books out of the college library. That fee, designed to cover the cost of the card, will be due when the library card application is made.

Trustees approved 34 revisions to the 1992-93 budget presented by Ben DeBlois, vice-president for administrative services. The revisions were needed, among other things, to reallocate money because of a change in departmental needs, to transfer funds between account codes and handle a reversion of funds due the state as a result of the FTE audit.

Trustee Lynda Stanley, chairman of the legislative committee,

reported the state General Assembly is considering a two-percent salary increase for state employees, plus a one-percent compensation bonus to be paid in December. The legislature is also considering bills to establish a salary schedule for community college personnel and to establish a revolving loan fund to which community colleges could apply for loans to purchase instructional equipment.

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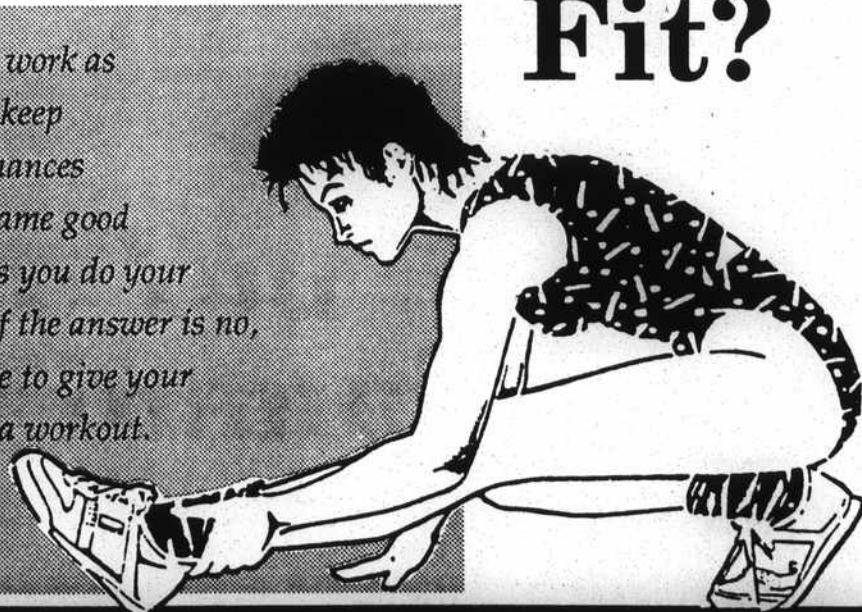
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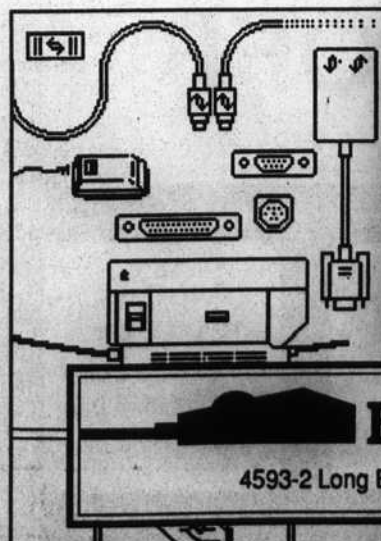
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