

Time and Tide

55 years ago

A group of seamen who had been rescued from a torpedoed tanker off the coast of Brunswick County had been landed in Southport. That story, and a front-page picture, was in the *Pilot* for March 18, 1942. Forest Protection Week was being observed in Brunswick County, and there were pictures and stories in the *Pilot*.

David Watson and Donald Brock, both former East Carolina stars, were here to join forces with the town team as it squared-off against the combined forces of the Naval and Coast Guard units in a benefit basketball game. Word came from Orton that camellias were in full bloom.

45 years ago

On March 13, 1952, our front-page picture in the *Pilot* was of the 72-piece Shallotte High School band, under the direction of W. W. Jacobus. There also was announcement that superintendent of schools J. T. Denning had been elected chairman of the Brunswick County chapter of the American Red Cross.

Fire had threatened the Taylor Building where the office of the *Pilot* was located; a Winnabow man, D. R. Johnson, was to be the Republican candidate for Congress from the 7th District; and the boys from Brunswick County Training School had won the Southeastern Basketball Championship in a tournament held in Chadbourne.

35 years ago

The feature photo on the front page of the *Pilot* for March 14, 1962, was of Cheryl Rogers, Southport girl, who had just been crowned Miss Brunswick County. Progress was reported in getting the Shallotte branch of the Brunswick County public library ready for use.

The feature story that week was on Orton Plantation, which was coming into full bloom; the Leland High School basketball team was making a good showing in the district tournament in Kenansville; and there was a story of rescue at sea that resulted from services rendered here to the electronics system aboard a distressed sailboat.

25 years ago

The Franklin Square Motel, the first-ever such facility constructed in Southport, had been leveled by fire. That was a front-page story in the *Pilot* for March 8, 1972. We also had a spectacular picture of the fire. Four men convicted of robbing the Sawdust Trail branch of Waccamaw Bank and Trust Company each had been sentenced to 20 years in prison.

Waccamaw High School had lost in the finals of the state 1A basketball tournament; Charles Dunn, SBI director, had spoken at Shallotte High School on the drug problem; and a front-page photo showed clerk of court Jack Brown swearing in A. H. Gainey Jr., Hubert Bellamy and Lester C. Babson as members of the Brunswick County Board of Elections.

20 years ago

Mark Hewett, senior at West Brunswick High School, had received a Morehead Scholarship award to study at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. That was a front-page story in the *Pilot* for March 9, 1977. A petition requesting that Mosquito Precinct be removed from Smithville Township had been presented to the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners.

An early decision concerning the relocation of a new post office facility for Southport had been promised by the U. S. Postal Service. Phase II of the Brunswick County water system was a matter of major importance before the board of commissioners that week; and dedication services at St. Peter Lutheran Church had been set for the following Sunday.

15 years ago

In our issue for March 10, 1982, the Girl Scouts were in the news. That organization was celebrating its 70th anniversary and we had pictures and a full page of congratulatory advertisements. The Town of Long Beach had received a state grant for public access facilities on the strand.

There was a hint that spring was just around the corner, because our front-page picture showed children playing on a swing in the park; a benefit barbecue for the N. C. Fourth of July Festival had been so successful they sold out of food; and the Boiling Spring Lakes Community Appearance Commission had scheduled a "Spring Fair" for March 14.

10 years ago

Mrs. Victoria Aldridge, more popularly known as "Miss Vickie," has retired as assistant clerk of Superior Court for Brunswick County after serving in that office for 32 years. That story and a photo showing her accepting a commemorative plaque were in the *Pilot* for March 4, 1987. The N. C. General Assembly was back in session and we had a report of the first week's work from Rep. David Redwine.

Blair Daniels had been crowned Miss Brunswick Community College and we had her photo in the paper that week; baseball coach Paul Faulk had prepared a profile sheet covering all members of his South Brunswick High School squad and we had it on the sports page; and Walt Workman had been named chief of police in Long Beach.

5 years ago

It was March 4, 1992, and 160 horses and riders had turned out the past weekend to gallop in the Long Beach surf. A good time was had by all 320, and \$5,000 in profits had been turned over to the town fire department and rescue squads. Waste Industries Inc. of Raleigh had taken over county trash collection duties on March 1; Southport 2000 had moved its offices to 107 East Nash Street; and South Brunswick High School officials were on the verge of developing a new plan to achieve better discipline at the school.

Dosher Memorial Hospital volunteers were planning to establish a \$1,000 college grant for a student majoring in a health discipline; whopper blues, bonito and kings were biting at Frying Pan Tower; and on Bald Head Island the planning board was to consider a new developer proposal for cluster housing on South Beach.

Put your left foot in...

They looked nothing alike and -- now that I was aware -- they felt very different

Richard Nubel



I'm either First Citizens Bank's luckiest customer, or its dumbest. You decide.

I started last Tuesday -- deadline day. I was under the gun. I had put off some research of back issues until the last minute, something that I knew I shouldn't have done, but did.

To cover for my procrastination, I arose about 5:30 that morning, toileted and dressed hastily, and made off for the office where I scanned issues of the *Pilot* from the 1970s between 7 a.m. and about 9:30. Taking a break, I stepped from the back door of the office to catch a breath of the fresh morning air. I looked up at the sky, scanned the horizon, cast my eyes down at the ground.

Uh-oh. In my haste to dress and hurry to cover for my lack of preparation, I had erred badly in fashion judgment. On my left foot was a black canvas athletic shoe. On my right foot was a brown leather Rockport. Dressing in semi-darkness that morning, I had slipped a \$15 shoe on my left foot and a \$100 shoe on my right foot. They looked nothing alike in the morning light and -- now that I was aware -- they felt very different.

I immediately went into the office and confessed to all my co-workers, giving them a good laugh and further reason to question my sanity -- as if they needed that.

But, vanity got the better of me. It was one thing for my co-workers to laugh at me, but no one else was going to get the opportunity, by golly. I had to go to Long Beach Town Hall. Not wanting to look like a dork over there, I stopped quickly by First Citizens' new Southport automatic teller machine, just installed a week before. I withdrew \$20 and bought a pair of \$15 Hushpuppy-like (near-puppy?) shoes at Roses. Properly shod, they were none the wiser at Long Beach Town Hall.

About the time I returned from Town Hall the

editor decided we just had to know something about a federal lawsuit that had been filed recently. I quickly called the federal courthouse in Wilmington and determined the suit in question had, indeed, been filed. I sped off in the company Explorer to Wilmington.

At least I sped a few yards up Howe Street. The gas gauge was dipping on the Explorer and I figured I might incur copying costs at the courthouse in Wilmington. So, I stopped again at First Citizens' handy-dandy ATM machine in its new Southport location, withdrawing another \$20 bill to cover my anticipated expenses.

Arriving at the federal courthouse in Wilmington, I immediately created another disaster at the metal detector the U. S. marshals now man in the courthouse lobby. I kept setting the damn thing off.

First I emptied my pockets of coins and keys. Whirrrrr, the siren sounded.

Next I stripped off my belt, took the cell phone out of my coat pocket and took off my rings and watch.

Whirrrrr.

I took off my coat which had a metal zipper and was about to surrender my pants when the

marshal intervened.

"Go on ahead," said the marshal. I guess he figured by that time if I had had a gun I would have shot him already.

I raced to the second-floor clerk's office, made my request for the lawsuit.

"Oh, that suit was filed in Raleigh," said the clerk. "None of the paperwork is here."

My deadline day trip to Wilmington was made for naught.

I raced back to Southport with \$40 less in my checking account, frustrated, with not a word written for the entire day. It was 1 p.m.

The day went downhill from there. I stayed under the gun into the evening, covered a special meeting of the city board of aldermen and went home exhausted about 10 p.m. that night.

An awful day.

Wednesday passed and Thursday dawned with the promise of a chance to have a better week on the job. No more procrastination, I vowed.

As I entered the office Thursday morning, the phone rang almost immediately.

"Richard, this is Russ Thompson from First Citizens Bank. I've got some good news for you."

I was mystified. I hadn't applied for a loan and didn't figure the posting of interest to my meager savings account was worth a call from the bank's city executive.

"We've been holding a little contest here and I called to tell you you were the 100th First Citizens customer to use our new Southport ATM machine," Thompson says. "You've won a First Citizens T-shirt."

I was either lucky, or the bank's dumbest customer on Tuesday when I tripped the 100-customer counter at the new Southport ATM. I'm not sure.

I'll wear my First Citizens T-shirt in commemoration of my deadline day exploits. I just wish First Citizens made promotional shoes. I'd proudly wear one on each foot.

Schools 'Initiative' program to involve those on probation

By Holly Edwards
Feature Editor

Brunswick County schools and the Division of Adult Probation and Parole have joined in a new program called "Educational Initiative."

The program is designed to forge a closer, more cooperative relationship between probation officers and school officials and thereby enhance the academic achievement of students on probation.

A probation officer will be assigned to each of the four county high schools and the principal of each school will assign a staff member to work with the probation officer.

At any given time, there are an average of 24 students on probation in the county, said Robert Shannon, judicial district manager.

Probation officers assigned to county high schools are Amy Bland at South Brunswick High School, Pattie Dew at the Brunswick Learning Center, Kim Clemmons at West Brunswick High School and Mary Barnhardt at North Brunswick.

Probation officers will visit the school within ten days of a student being placed on probation to provide school officials with terms of the probation agreement, and the officers will be contacted immediately if problems with the students arise at school. The program also requires probation officers to routinely administer drug tests for probationers with this condition of supervision.

"We have always had a good relationship with Brunswick County schools, and we feel this effort will only improve that relationship," said chief probation parole officer Norman Holden.

Swat a litter bug!

If you see someone throw litter from a vehicle, please write down the license number and call "CLEAN IT" or 253-2648

With your help we can keep Brunswick County clean and green - THE ACT GROUP

Happy Birthday

and best wishes to our patients & friends from Dr. Larry Hemby & Staff

March 5	Margaret Reed	March 9	Keith Conley
March 6	Teresa Clark	March 9	Libby Harlee
March 6	Frank Grier	March 9	Harriet LeMaster
March 6	Annette Blake	March 9	Ray Martin
March 6	Brandy Ratcliffe	March 9	George Moncrief
March 7	Robby Boss	March 9	Donna Pennington
March 7	Bea Flythe	March 9	David Prevatte
March 7	Dixie Klutz	March 10	Kate Buntin
March 7	Ruth Wright	March 10	Glenda Christian
March 8	Ed Fleming	March 10	Krista King
March 8	Sue Peacock	March 10	Brian Krause
March 8	Laurice Willetts	March 10	Karen Taylor
March 9	Jenny Britt	March 10	Arthur Williams
March 9	Meagan Clark	March 11	Michael Dickerson

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