

# OCRACOKE SCHOOL NEWS

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## GOVERNOR HODGES VISITS OCRACOKE ASSURES \$300,000 FOR ROAD

Ocracokers here at home are already fully aware of the good news, and probably many Ocracokers away from home have read the good news in their local papers. There was nothing abstract about the announcement made to the Ocracoke Community meeting on March 5th by A.H. Graham, Chairman of the N.C. State Highway Commission; it stated concretely that "an understanding Governor" has allocated \$200,000 of the Highway Surplus Fund, and your Division Commissioner has added \$100,000, making a total of \$300,000 available for the road.

Governor Hodges and his party of State Officials and others arrived by helicopter from Cherry Point at about eleven a.m. Mother Nature had provided the rarest of "June" days--sunny sky, gentle breeze, blue water--and no mosquitoes. Ocracoke citizens gathered at the U.S. Coast Guard Station to greet the Governor. Capt. Marvin Howard and his Mounted Boy Scout Troop were right there to form a body guard and to lead the visitors on their trip through the Village.

In the Governor's party were A.H. Graham, Chairman, State Highway Commission; W. H. Rogers, Jr., State Highway Engineer; Carl Goersch, Commentator, of Raleigh (an adopted Ocracoker through his many visits to the Island); Noel Yancey, AP Correspondent

of Raleigh, and Paul Hassell, AP Correspondent of Charlotte, and Woodrow Price, News & Observer (a summer resident here, who wishes he could be here all year round.)

To join the group here had come on Friday afternoon, down the keef, J. Emmett Winslow, Division #1 Highway Commissioner, W. N. Spruill, Division Highway Engineer, Allyn F. Hanks, Supt. National Seashore Park, and Ben Dixon McNeil, free lance writer and friend to all, of Furton. Travelling in jeeps down the "inside" road, these representatives of the Highway Department had a tough time making it and were about ready to say that Ocracoke needed a road, when they arrived.

The All-Seashore Highway Association was represented by our own R.S. Wahab, District Vice-President, and by Joe DuBois of Sea Level, Secretary. Ocracoke's National Park Ranger, Hazen Brooks, was an honor guest.

Russell Swindell, Hyde County Representative, made the trip over in the "good old-fashioned way", i.e. by boat, from our County Seat at Swan Quarter, bringing several other Hyde County officials to enjoy the day here.

Also down from the North were R.M. Saunders of Elizabeth City, Harry Jenette of Saxton, both of the Division Highway organization.

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