

# THE COASTLAND TIMES

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## PAUL GREEN AND GRAHAM BOTH TO APPEAR FRIDAY AT LOST COLONY OPENING

Author of the Play, and Chairman of State Highway Commission To Speak at Fort Raleigh Tonight as Drama Begins Its 15th Season; Many Changes Noted in Both Script and Costumes; Much Interest Presages Large Attendance.

By AYCOCK BROWN  
A. H. (Sandy) Graham, chairman of the North Carolina State Highway and Public Works Commission and Paul Green, who gave the world its first symphonic drama type of outdoor theatrical production will be speakers at the 15th season premiere of The Lost Colony in Waterside Theatre at Fort Raleigh National Historic Site on Roanoke Island Friday night. Lights will shine on the beginning of this longest lived of all outdoor productions at 8:15 o'clock, E.S.T., and performances will be presented nightly (including Monday, July 4th) until July 10, after which there will be performances every night, except Mondays, through September 4.

Sandy Graham will be here to officially represent North Carolina and its Governor Luther Hodges. Paul Green will make a flying trip from Berea, Ky., where another of his symphonic dramas has its premiere on June 29, in order to be here to greet the audience at Lost Colony's 712th performance Friday night.

Several Changes  
Director Clifton Britton of The Lost Colony states that there have been several changes in drama this year and many of the cast members will be newly costumed. It will be the most exciting edition of the drama's long run. The changes involved have given more speed to the reduction, and performances this year will be six minutes shorter than last year and previous years.

One of the most noticeable changes will be found at the very beginning of the drama during the corn dance of the Roanoke Indians. Under the choreographic direction of Marvin Gordon, who will be cast also, as Uppowoc, the dancing Indian Medicine man, this opening dance has been made more primitive and authentic. Other dances have also been given historical background.

There will be several new faces in the cast this year, many of whom are playing principle roles. Martin Gerrish, of Tucson, Arizona, will play the male lead. There will be a new Old Tom Harris, played by David Bowen, formerly with Raleigh Little Theatre, and other leading personalities of the show, cast in their roles for the first time this season. Jordan stated that advance ticket sales had been very good for the premiere and also other performances on this July 4th week end.

### GEORGE A. DANIELS NEW MEMBER WELFARE BOARD

Mrs. Louise Forehand Tillett having served six years on the Dare County Welfare Board, she has been replaced by George Albert Daniels, also of Wanchese, and Mr. Daniels will take office July 1. His term is for three years. Membership on this Board is limited to six years consecutively.

Mrs. Tillett, a faithful community worker, is also a teacher in the Wanchese school, and has been highly commended for her work on this Board. Mr. Daniels is likewise known as a big-hearted community worker, and his previous interest in assistance work is considered an excellent qualification for taking this new post.

### MEETING AT RODANTHE FRIDAY NIGHT AT 8 TO DISCUSS JUBILEE

A meeting of interested citizens and their friends, of Rodanthe area has been called at Rodanthe cafe for Friday evening this week, today, to discuss a proposed jubilee celebration dealing with the history of Chicamocomico and the Life Saving Service, to be held tentatively in August.

Woodrow Edwards, R. D. Owens and other have called this meeting, and urge all people interested in the history and progress of Hatteras Island to attend.

### NO REBEKAH MEETING

Mrs. Tracy Ward, Noble Grand, of Manteo Rebekah Lodge No. 52 reports that the next regular meeting will not be held since it falls on July 4th, a legal holiday.

SCENES YOU'LL SEE IN LOST COLONY'S 15TH SEASON PREMIERE



## CONTENDS PROPERTY AT BODIE ISLAND WORTH MILLIONS

Elizabeth City Attorney Making Strong Fight For Big Price For 2400 Acres at Oregon Inlet

Continuing with a vigorous fight in his protest against accepting the offer of something like \$200,000 for the 2,400 acres of beach and marshlands at Bodie Island, W. A. Worth, one of the ablest attorneys of the region is being heard this week in Dare County courthouse before a panel of three commissioners who are Chairman I. D. Thorp of Rocky Mount, J. C. Sawyer of Elizabeth City and Charles W. Bradshaw of Raleigh.

Mr. Worth has put an array of imported experts in geology who attempt to show that the potential of ilmenite and kindred minerals which might be extracted from the land might yield the owner several times in royalties what the Park Service offers for the land.

Mr. Worth is represented by a battery of distinguished legal talent, including Major L. P. McLendon of Greensboro, W. B. Rodman of Washington, and Hubert Humphrey. A number of "expert See WORTH, Page Ten

Colorful and dramatic scenes that will come to life again with The Lost Colony's 15th Season Premiere at Waterside Theatre on Roanoke Island are shown above surrounding the view of the amphitheatre where 711 performances of the internationally famous symphonic drama have been presented to date. The Paul Green play, first presented on July 4th, 1937, has been more responsible for changing the economy and promoting the progressive growth and development of Roanoke Island and the Dare Coast than anything else. The drama today is one of the largest single industries of the area. Photo in upper left shows the famous Lost Colony Chorus under direction of Nema Williams. The Chorus is made up of students and/or graduates of the Westminster Choir College, Princeton, N. J. Top right scene shows Eleanor Dare singing a lullaby to her new born daughter Virginia Dare. Talented Ann Martin of Cherokee, with a rich background of theatrical activity in her career, plays the role of Eleanor Dare, the female lead, for her second season this year. One of the very dramatic and most exciting scenes of the play is shown in

lower left as Uppowoc, the Indian Medicine Man begins his dance to drive away the spirits followed by the massacre of the sleeping Indians by Governor Lane's men. Marvin Gordon of New York, the drama's choreographer, plays Uppowoc. Colorful scene of the play portrays a Garden Party reception by Queen Elizabeth. The Queen again this year will be played by Mary Wood Long, who has been with The Lost Colony for many seasons. She is shown receiving Eleanor White (later Dare) as her master of Ceremonies, played this year by William L. White Jr., of Topsham, Maine. Waterside Theatre, designed and built by Albert Q. Bell is the center picture, and the spot where the expected record breaking 15th season premiere will be held on Friday, July 1, one week from today. (Photos by Aycock Brown, Dare County Tourist Bureau and Dick Bruckse, Portsmouth (Va.) Star.)

## 'Unto These Hills' Gives Indians Full Measure Of Sympathy, Understanding, Opportunity

This, With Many Other Attractions, Makes the Far Journey To The Mountains Well Worth While.

By CATHERINE D. MEEKINS

The season of outdoor theatre is on in North Carolina. Our own "Lost Colony" by Paul Green is scheduled to open Friday night, July 1. "Unto These Hills" at Cherokee and "Horn in the West" at Boone opened last Saturday night and my husband and I were fortunate enough to be able to attend the opening of "Unto These Hills." Being fully aware of the great dramatic quality of "The Lost Colony" and knowing how complete and professional a production it is, I went to the mountain show not a little biased, and expecting a show somewhat inferior to our own. However, I was in for the surprise of my life, because "Unto These Hills" is also a great dramatic achievement and equally as well done as our own show. As far as comparing the two shows is concerned, it would be hard to do so. Where "The Lost Colony" is a great symphonic drama with the music interwoven as an integral part of the production, "Unto These Hills" is straight drama with a certain amount of incidental music. The Indian dances were most interesting and extremely well-done, as why shouldn't they be? Their choreographer is Foster Fitz-Simons, who was for several years choreographer for "The Lost Colony" and who did such a magnificent job of it. He also has one of the leading character parts in the mountain show, and does it to perfection. In addition, he is associate director.

Where "The Lost Colony" covers a comparatively short period of time, "Unto These Hills" covers a period from the coming of De Soto in 1540 until 1842, when the remaining Cherokees were allowed to live in peace in their native hills, after most of their tribe had been removed to Oklahoma across the Trail of Tears, their suffering beyond our comprehension.

Having been an "adopted native" of Roanoke Island for the last 25 years, I love every inch of

Dare County, and especially our beautiful Waterside Theatre on Roanoke Island, the home of "The Lost Colony." But, being hill-bred I reveled in the beauty of the Mountainside Theatre in Cherokee. Built in a natural amphitheatre, with towering mountains as a backdrop and other mountains on all sides, the theatre has the best acoustics I have ever heard of an outdoor production of any kind. In the high, thin mountain air, the actors did not have to battle with the heavy sea-level atmosphere and the ever-present winds that our actors have to combat. We had seats in the fifth row back in the center section, just about the best seats in the theatre, but I am sure those seated high in the back of the theatre heard every bit as well as we.

We arrived at the road leading to the theatre about 30 minutes ahead of opening time and our hearts fell when we were told we would have to park at the foot of the mountain, as the parking lot near the theatre entrance was already filled. A steep mountain climb was not much to our liking; but just as we had parked our car and started toward the road, we discovered that the management was running shuttle busses from the foot of the mountain to the

### REDUCTIONS IN TAXES AT KILL DEVIL HILLS

A reduction in taxes to 25 cents per \$100 has been made this year by the town Board of Kill Devil Hills, and Schedule B. Privilege taxes have also been reduced. The new budget set up to operate the town for the fiscal year beginning July 1, totals \$15,297.25.

The items covered by this budget are as follows: General government expense \$4,797.25; Police Department \$2,600; Fire Department \$1,000; Contingency \$400 and Street Department \$6,500.

## CLOSING OF BINGO GAMES AT NAGS HEAD CREATES FURORE IN MANY CIRCLES

Highly Controversial and Exciting Court Action Sponsored by Four Church Groups Comes to A Head, With Padlocking of Establishments; To Be Heard Saturday, July 9th by Judge Morris at Currituck.

McCOWN PRESIDENT OF MANTEO ROTARY CLUB



WALLACE H. McCown, Manteo attorney will take office Monday night, July 4th as president of the Manteo Rotary Club, succeeding John H. Long. Mr. McCown is a former Secretary of the Club. Ralph Swain is the new Vice-president; R. D. Sawyer, Treasurer, and See McCOWN, Page Ten

### HOME AGENT RESIGNED DAY BEFORE BRINGING ACTION AGAINST BINGO

Others Back Water Under Force of Vigorous Antagonism in Behalf of Games; One Signer Agreed to Withdraw

It now appears that Mrs. Virginia (Pat) Wescott had resigned as home agent for Dare County, in a letter transmitted to her superiors the day before she attached her name to the petition for the closing of the bingo games. On June 21, due to circumstances and costs involved in the requirements essential to become a perice she has concluded acceptance of permanent work would be to her disadvantage. Dare County will be without a home agent for sometime to come, due to lack of experienced workers in this field. Here is Mrs. Wescott's letter of resignation: Miss Florence Cox District Home Agent Raleigh, N. C. Dear Miss Cox:

The letter from Miss Dakin with details from my becoming a member of the Federal Retirement system has upset my outlook on the future considerable. I am perfectly willing to conform to Extension regulations but having to go back to years service in Bertie and Durham counties requires that I repay more than eleven hundred dollars. To receive a monthly income after I am 62 years old would be fine, but one of the purposes of my working now is to give our children educational aid. See AGENT, Page Ten

### WANCHESE SOLDIER



PVT. TOMMIE D. DANIELS, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ruford A. Daniels of Wanchese, and the husband of Mrs. Edna M. Daniels, who entered the armed services on May 17, is receiving his basic training at Fort Jackson, S. C. He will return home in the early part of August.

One of the most far-reaching court actions ever undertaken in Dare County came to a head last Thursday night with the serving of a court order padlocking 3 of 4 four bingo games at Nags Head, and summoning the operators to appear on July 9th at 10 a. m. before Judge Chester Morris at Currituck courthouse to show cause why they should not be permanently enjoined against further operation of the game of bingo.

The action was brought in a petition signed by Mrs. Marjorie Wescott and Mrs. Virginia P. Wescott of Manteo, following sentiment expressed by the three Methodist Church Boards of Manteo, Wanchese, and Kitty Hawk, and the Manteo and Nags Head Baptist Churches, which began early last fall.

The two signers are leaders in church and community work and say that they sincerely oppose the game of bingo for moral and religious reasons and were moved further by the strong support urged upon them by religious leaders of the congregations mentioned.

A terrific furore has been aroused on the Dare Beaches, where the most of the business interests look upon bingo as a harmless, but highly profitable amusement to the beaches. The reactions range from fear to highly volatile indignation. Some interests fear that the beaches will suffer a tremendous loss in trade and tourist business. They contend that a great number of people who patronized the resorts have come only because of the bingo games. Many of these people are open and above board in their support of the games, and in their fight to retain them. But some letters sent have been anonymous, disgraceful, and ridiculous in the extreme.

Because the two Mistresses Wescott were in quasi-public employ, Mrs. Marjorie Wescott, a capable stenographer employed heretofore by the Dare County Tourist Bureau, and Mrs. Pat Wescott, having recently been employed for a full year as Dare County Home Agent, appeals have been directed to their superiors demanding their dismissal. (Two such letters, frankly signed, are reproduced elsewhere in this newspaper today.)

But many anonymous, venomous and cowardly letters have been sent through the mails to the two signers of the petition. Many bitter telephone calls have been received. Here is one of the letters mailed, postmarked at 3 p. m. Sunday from Elizabeth City:

"Dear Marjorie:

Writing you a few lines in regards to what you have done in regards to the bingo on the beach you have took all this mistake on your self used the people of Wanchese and Manteo for your alibi and what you know about this you don't know nothing out of the way you don't go there and you know nothing what goes on except what you hear and as a friend to you and your whole family I want to give you some advice first thing you do you go draw that warrant get your name out of this you are making your self pretty busy and playing pretty smart you are putting your whole family on the spot I have heard plenty about your husband stealing from the government and you know this too when he was doing this you are going to be dealt with in a mighty bad matter you will loose your job the other party will do the same mabe burned out of home mabe shot blowed up, mabe your daughter kidnapped you won't know what will happen study this matter over carefully let conscience be your guide act now dont wait mabe prolong serious trouble a friend to you and your whole family "do something at once" E. City, N. C. June 26, 1955

On the other hand many messages of congratulation and promises of support have come to the two Mrs. Wescotts, which indicates a surprising number of people who think bingo should go. Cash Basis Fostered Trouble See BINGO, Page Nine