

# THE COASTLAND TIMES

WITH WHICH IS COMBINED THE PILOT AND HERALD OF BELHAVEN AND SWAN QUARTER  
PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTEREST OF THE WALTER RALEIGH COASTLAND OF NORTH CAROLINA

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## NOTICE GIVEN ON STATUS OF CHANNEL OUT OF HATTERAS

Has Been Reported Favorably by District and Division Engineers; In Washington

The proposed improvements to Rollinson's Channel leaving from Hatteras Harbor to Pamlico Sound which has long been advocated by Congressman Bonner, and having been approved by the office of the District Engineer in Wilmington, and the Division Engineer in Atlanta, is to be considered by the Chief of Engineers in Washington, and the fate of this project may depend on the degree of support that is given it by local interests concerned. The following notice is furnished by the Division Engineer's office:

Notice is hereby given that the report on Rollinson Channel and Channel from Hatteras Inlet to Hatteras, North Carolina, for navigation, authorized by resolutions adopted 29 July 1955, 31 July 1957, and 16 July 1958 by the Committee on Public Works of the House of Representatives, United States, and concerning which a public hearing was held 12 March 1959 at Hatteras, has been made by the District and Division Engineers. The report is partially favorable to the improvement.

The reporting officers recommend modification of the existing Federal project for Rollinson Channel to provide for a channel 100 feet wide and 12 feet deep from that depth in Pamlico Sound to and including a depth of 12 feet in the present basin at Hatteras; and a channel 100 feet wide and 10 feet deep, by the direct route, from that depth in Hatteras Inlet gorge to Rollinson Channel, in the vicinity of the basin at Hatteras. They find that channels in those locations and of those dimensions would be economically justified and would reasonably fulfill the needs of present and prospective commerce. The estimated first cost to the United States for construction is \$651,800. Provision of the improvements is subject to the conditions that local interests will (a) provide without cost to the United States all lands, easements, and rights-of-way required for construction and subsequent maintenance of the project, and of aids to navigation upon the request of the Chief of Engineers including suitable areas determined by the Chief of Engineers to be required in the general public interest for initial and subsequent disposal of spoil and including necessary retaining dikes, bulkheads, and embankments, therefor, or the costs of such retaining works; (b) hold and save the United States free from damages to wharves, piers, and buildings, due to construction and maintenance of the project; and (c) provide and maintain, at local expense, adequate public terminal and transfer facilities, open to all on equal terms, in the harbor at Hatteras in accordance with plans approved by the Chief of Engineers. Consideration was also given to extension of the basin at Hatteras. It was found, however, that benefits to be derived would be insufficient to warrant provision of an extension by the United States at this time.

In accordance with law, the report is being referred for review to the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors in Washington, D. C. Interested parties may present written views on the report to the Board. Statements submitted should not repeat material previously presented at public hearings held by the District or Division Engineers, or contained in their reports, as this information is already available to the Board. Information submitted should be new, specific in nature and bear directly on the findings in the report.

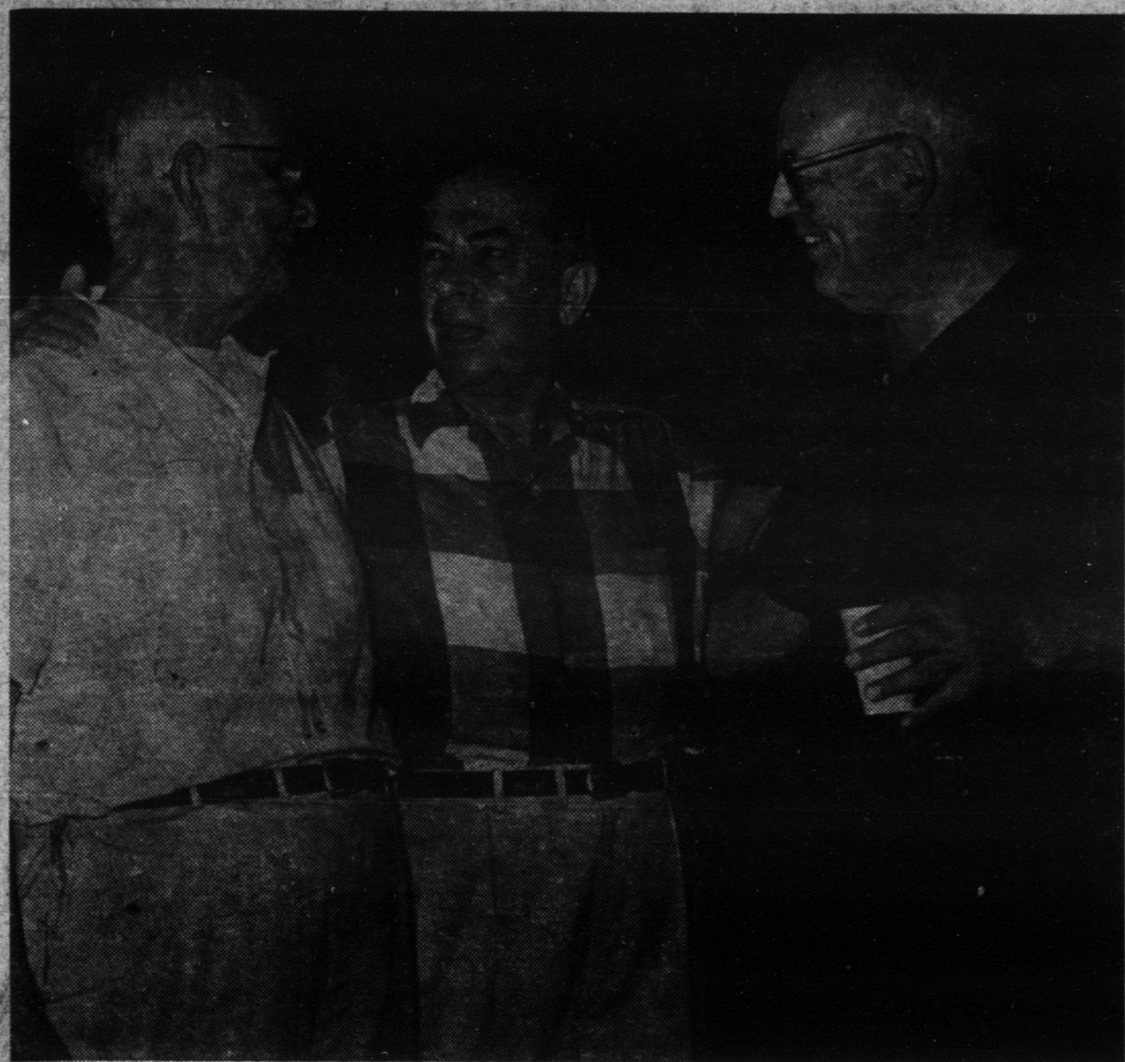
Hearings will be held only on written request explaining the need to present material not included in the report.

Written communications are to be mailed to the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors, Washington 25, D. C., in time to reach the Board by 28 September 1961. If extension of this date is considered necessary, requests giving reasons and additional time desired should be submitted as soon as possible.

The Board considers communications and the report at a date subsequent to expiration of notice. Information furnished by mail receives the same attention as that received at public hearing. Should the Board not be convinced of the soundness of the recommendations in the report, notice to that effect will be mailed to all known interested parties prior to final action.

Further information may be obtained from this office or the District Engineer, U. S. Army Engineer District, Wilmington, P. O. Box 1890, Wilmington, North Carolina. See CHANNEL, Page Six

## CELEBRITIES TAKE PART IN DRINKWATER'S BIRTHDAY PARTY



AMONG the numerous friends who turn out to honor Manteo's oldest man each year on his birthday there are always a number of notable persons, who come from distant places. Recently when his 87th birthday was observed, Congressman Herbert C. Bonner, shown in the center, came down. Also, on the right may be seen Huntington Cairns, Director of the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D. C. and who is one of the country's foremost authorities in his field of work. He is a long time friend of Dare County and a part time resident, being one of the first to establish a cottage at Southern Shores near Kitty Hawk. Photo by Aycock Brown

## GREAT EXPANSION OF PHONE SERVICE PROMISED COAST

Norfolk & Carolina Tel. & Tel. Co. Foresees Vast Development Soon in Outer Banks

Of particular interest at this time is the announcement made yesterday week by L. S. Blades, Jr., President of the Norfolk & Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Company of Elizabeth City concerning plans for a large development of its facilities serving the Outer Banks area. One improvement contemplates doing away with submarine cables across Oregon Inlet by using wires on the bridge to be built. Mr. Blades has furnished this newspaper with the following statement:

We are pleased to report to the public generally that The Norfolk & Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Company has entered into a program of expanding its facilities throughout its entire area which will further supplement its service in Edenton, Hertford, Sunbury, Buxton, Manteo, Kill Devil Hills, Moyock, Coinjock and Elizabeth City. The great majority of our territory is quite adequately served, but there are certain sections of this territory which do require additional physical equipment and facilities to expand the service. It is in these areas that we primarily direct our attention, along with the aforementioned general expansion of service in the entire area.

We are happy to learn that the State Highway Commission is going to bridge Oregon Inlet and open this Outer Banks area to a greater flow of tourist traffic. The Telephone Company a year ago applied for attachment rights on this bridge so that the Telephone Company's cables could ride this great span. In the meantime there will be expansion of the long line facilities between Buxton and Hatteras so as to completely relieve the pressures experienced in Hatteras, Frisco and other intermediate points.

In Manteo and the Kill Devil Hills exchanges we will be greatly expanded in long line (long distance) facilities so as to reduce the waiting period for long distance service to a practical minimum in Manteo and on the beach. This will be done by placing an automatic local exchange at Manteo and connecting it with the outside world with microwave high towers at Elizabeth City and Manteo and an intermediate tower or towers. In connection with this long line expansion there will be further expansion of local service by additional cable on the beach and in Manteo.

The problems of lower Currituck are not settled by our engineers at the present time, but will be within the next 90 days so as to increase facilities to a normal state within the next ten months.

Elizabeth City will not only connect with Manteo and the Dare beaches by use of microwave towers. See PHONE, Page Six

## CHIEF MITCHELL WRITES END TO HIS LONG CAREER



MARVIN CHESTER MITCHELL for 20 years chief of police of the town of Manteo, and head of the law enforcement branch of the Dare County ABC, this month goes into retirement as a police officer, and ending his long career of terror for the lawless. In 1940 Mr. Mitchell came to Dare County to run the mail route by contract between Manteo and Stumpy Point. In 1941 he entered into police work. He is a native of Old Trap, Camden County, and his career has included farming and service in the Merchant Marine. He will be succeeded by Russell Sears, for the past two years Manteo night officer, who has made a popular officer, and who will also work for the ABC Board. In June on his 66th birthday, Mr. Mitchell was given a dinner party by his friends in Manteo.

The appointment of Russell Sears as Chief of Police was confirmed by the Manteo Town Board Thursday morning. Others who applied for the post were Dan Cannady, former Police Chief, of Manteo, and W. E. Whitehurst of Elizabeth City, a former highway patrolman. A successor to Mr. Sears was not named for night duty in Manteo, although there were two applicants, Ted Scoggins and Guy Midgett.

## ROANOKE ISLAND BAPTIST HOMECOMING SUNDAY

Homecoming will be held September 3, at the Roanoke Island Baptist Church. Sunday School will be at 10 A. M. and the worship service at 11 A. M. The message will be by the pastor Rev. C. W. Goodwin, Jr. with special music by the church choir.

Dinner will be on the grounds at 12 noon. Everyone is invited to attend. The evening services will be all singing by Mrs. Raymond Wescott, John H. Long, Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Daniels, the Manteo Baptist Choir, Manteo Methodist Church Choir, Wanchese Methodist Church choir, Nags Head Baptist Church choir, and the Roanoke Island Baptist Church choir.

## BIG VACATION TRADE EXPECTED OVER WEEK END

Lost Colony Running Far Ahead of Last Year With Later Starting Date

With four more performances before the current season's finale on Sunday night, "The Lost Colony" has topped last season's attendance, Sib Dorton, Jr., manager announced Wednesday night.

"The total paid attendance for 'The Lost Colony' in 1960 was 36,176. As of Tuesday night the drama this year had played to 36,367 persons and we have high hopes of pushing the total of 40,000 or better during the rest of this week," said Dorton.

"The Lost Colony," longest lived of all outdoor productions, opened on July 1 this year—seven performances later than 1960.

Sunday, September 3, or Labor Day Eve, will be the only Sunday performance of the season.

Dorton attributes the increased attendance to several factors. "Of course, the most important thing," he said, "has been the weather. We had only one complete rainout in 1961 although there were near rainouts during four other performances." A rainout is when the performance must be canceled before intermission. Ticket refunds are made in such cases. If the rain causes a cancellation after intermission rainchecks, which may be used for any subsequent performance, are given the patrons.

Other factors for increased attendance this season Dorton attributed to "excellent cooperation from press, radio and television; and the increased interest from the operators of hotels, motels and restaurants in promoting the drama to tourists on vacation trips to the Outer Banks region.

Governor Terry Sanford announced earlier this month the appointment of a 21-member commission to make plans for the 1962 season of "The Lost Colony," its 25th anniversary.

Production schedule of the 1962 season will be announced at the annual meeting of Roanoke Island Historical Association, producers of "The Lost Colony," sometime in November, Dorton said.

Throughout the Outer Banks region, indications point to a record number of tourists during the last big fling of the summer season. Hotel and motel reservations are at capacity levels. While a large part of this trade will depart late Monday and early Tuesday, businessmen report increasing numbers of reservations for the fall season.

Area fishing tournaments, coupled with the fact that generally agreeable weather during September and October, would suggest that fall business may be a record-breaker. Some operators are closing shortly after Labor Day, but a large number are planning for this extended season.

## STOCK OFFERED FOR CONVENTION FACILITY IN DARE

Beach Group Plans Canvass Beginning Next Week; Seeking \$100,000 to Begin Construction

The undertaking to sell \$100,000 worth of stock to secure capital necessary for building the convention center and museum at Kill Devil Hills gets underway this week end, with efforts being made to secure this capital principally from vacation operators in the Dare Beaches area. Construction may begin in the fall, allowing time for completion by 1962 season.

This movement follows several months of planning and negotiations by a group representing various interests along the beach, who, studying the need for a facility capable of accommodating large groups, offered a proposal to build on a ten-acre tract obtained from Mrs. Diane Voliva of Kill Devil Hills.

The overall cost is \$275,000, with the remaining amount being borrowed from outside sources, to be repaid over a 20-year period. Shares are available at \$100 each.

Estimated operational cost annually, including interest and principal, is \$29,000, while anticipated income first year is \$31,800 being derived mainly from groups renting the facility for meeting purposes. The center will have a capacity for seating 850; 500 banquet-style, and with the use of sound-proof dividers, the main hall could accommodate several small groups at the same time.

A canvass is scheduled for next week by proponents of the convention center and museum, in an effort to acquaint businessmen and answer questions pertaining thereto, and also sell stock.

## DARE BILLFISH SCORE TRAILING 1960 SEASON — BUT ONLY SLIGHTLY

By AYCOCK BROWN

While the billfish score along the Dare Coast-Outer Banks so far this season is less than the total taken in 1960, it is believed that catches by anglers aboard Oregon Inlet and Hatteras-based cruisers have boated more marlin and sailfish than any other section along the Atlantic coast.

Through August 30, according to records maintained by Dare County Tourist Bureau, exactly 200 billfish had been boated from waters near the western edge of the Gulf Stream off Oregon and Hatteras Inlets.

The tentative report of catches released this week includes 47 blue marlin, 147 white marlin and seven sailfish. There will be additional catches listed, catches that were not previously reported, and also potentially more billfish taken this year before the season's final report is issued on or about November 1, 1961.

Of the 47 blue marlin boated nine were taken off Oregon Inlet — and 38 from waters off Hatteras.

Of 147 white marlin taken, only five have been reported from Hatteras as compared to 141 off Oregon Inlet. In the tentative count some of the white marlin catches to be added were caught off Hatteras. They will be added after the Tourist Bureau has checked with guides and skippers of Hatteras at an early date.

Seven sailfish have been taken off Oregon Inlet — all that were included in the initial or tentative report. Several sails have been taken off Hatteras which are yet to be reported, according to late information received by the manager of the Turiss Bureau.

## WATER SKI SHOW AT POINT HARBOR MON.

Another interesting water event is scheduled to take place this week end, Labor Day, Monday, at Point Harbor. The Ski Lagoon will present the water ski spectacular starting at 2:30 p. m.

Featured guest will be LaVerne Watson, "Cousin Tibble" of WTAR-TV in Norfolk. Also featured in the program will be the Outer Banks Ski Club of Virginia and North Carolina, performing pyramid skiing, water ballet, mixed doubles and several other acts.

The public is invited; there will be no admission charged.

## WEEKEND WEATHER

Weather will continue mostly fair and warm except for chance of a few afternoon or evening thundershowers. Temperatures will average a few degrees above normal. Normal high 82 degrees and low 72 degrees. Excellent fishing weather indicated, reported by Cape Hatteras Weather Station.

## BILL INTRODUCED THIS WEEK BY CONGRESSMAN BONNER TO HASTEN OREGON INLET BRIDGE

Proposal in Congress Would Lighten Burden on Road Funds; 25% from Park Service Sources State Funds; Providing 50% from Federal and 25% from State Highway Funds; Heavy Tourist Season Comes, Despite Ferry Bottleneck.

## MISS MYRDITH MAE MIDGETT NURSING SCHOOL GRADUATE



MISS MYRDITH MAE MIDGETT, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Zora Midgett of Manteo, is a member of the 1961 graduating class of the De Paul Hospital School of Nursing, Norfolk, Va. Graduating exercises will be held in the auditorium of Norfolk Catholic High School at seven p.m. Friday, September 1.

Miss Midgett is a 1958 graduate of Manteo High School and has attended the De Paul School of Nursing for the last three years.

## VARIETY SHOW AT WATERSIDE THEATRE STAGED WEDNESDAY

June Valli, Guest Singer, Well Received By Audience; Artistic Performances

By CATHERINE D. MEEKINS

An audience of 592 attended the variety show put on Wednesday night in Waterside Theatre on Roanoke Island, with June Valli, New York recording star of popular music, as special guest. Miss Valli received a big ovation from the audience following her solo numbers close to the end of the show, but in this writer's opinion her numbers might have sounded better had the microphone been omitted. The night was clear, still, the air thin and the acoustics perfect, making the mike superfluous, and adding a slightly raucous note.

The highlight of the show was the musical reading of Johnson's "The Creation" by Paul Gold, narrator for The Lost Colony, and the Lost Colony Chorus, George Trautwein conducting. The depth to which the audience was impressed was attested by the long moment of complete silence following the number. Donna Randall Swan, singing "Un Bel Di" from Puccini's "Madame Butterfly" gave a superb performance. Marjalee Thomas, soprano, and George Vassos, tenor, also gave a top flight performance when they sang numbers from Gerishwin's "Porgy and Bess." Sandra Wade singing the comedy number "Yallar, Yallar Moon," drew tremendous applause and showed great artistic ability. Ancy Borton, soprano, who sat on a rustic fence and sang the ballad "Black Is the Color of My True Love's Hair," was accompanied on the guitar by Bob Thornburg, and theirs was among the best performances of the evening. Thornburg also accompanied Marjalee Thomas as she sang "The Roanoke Lullaby," a new ballad type song written by Elizabeth Welch, the music by Hedley Yost. The song had a lyric, haunting quality, and was artistically rendered, but became a little monotonous after too many verses.

The dances were, as always under Walter Stroud's direction, a work of art. The "Gooseberry Twirl," which came as the finale to the first act, was especially fine. A country dance, it ended with the formation of a merry-go-round, to the accompaniment of the usual merry-go-round tunes, and brought down the house. The guest organist, Harold Ahmyer of Fredericksburg, Va., seemed an adept at this type of accompaniment. Sprinkled throughout the evening's entertainment were a few other good spots, but on the whole the remainder of the show was See SHOW, Page Six

A bill that aims at hastening the building of the Oregon Inlet bridge was introduced in Congress by Rep. Herbert C. Bonner, who has led the fight for improvements for North Carolina's Outer Banks. Mr. Bonner has paid several visits to the area recently, and talked with friends about the proposition. He has evidently won the approval of the Secretary of the Interior through officials of the National Park Service.

According to a wire to this newspaper this week, Mr. Bonner's bill provides that fifty per cent of the cost of the bridge will be paid by Federal road funds, twenty-five per cent by the Department of the Interior, and twenty-five per cent by state highway funds. If the bill becomes law, the only thing to hold up the bridge would be neglect of the State Highway Commission to provide its share.

Much disappointment has prevailed among citizens of Hatteras Island over what they consider a needless delay on the part of the highway commission to begin work on the bridge which was authorized by the former Highway Commission during the administration of Governor Hodges. The entire summer, the traffic situation on the ferries at the Inlet has been impossible. Recently, the entirely new highway commission toured the area, and saw conditions first hand. Some of the members of the commission had a bad taste in their mouths out from the ill-advised barrage of criticism that had been engendered by the advice of some of the local officials who had staged a mass meeting, and urged the sending of telegrams and letters demanding work on the bridge begin at once.

This new commission, recently appointed by Governor Sanford, is making an effort to acquaint itself with the state's road needs, according to its statements, and at least one member is quoted as saying that the Commission is not bound to carry out any commitments made by their predecessors. This could mean that they do not consider they have to bridge Oregon Inlet just because Governor Hodges Commission promised to do so.

For several months, Mr. Bonner has suggested that the Federal Government should assume the major part of the cost, inasmuch as the promotion work of the National Park Service is responsible in greater measure, more than anything else, for the tremendous influx of tourists into the area. Facilities this season have been overwhelmed with business. Many people were prevented from going to the area due to the ferry bottleneck; although enough people did go down to practically use all available facilities.

Mr. Bonner will be back in Dare County this week end to discuss this and other matters with his friends.

There seems no well-founded reason to believe that the State Highway Commission doesn't plan to build a bridge over Oregon Inlet sometime, for a great amount of money has been spent in surveys, plans, and estimates, and numerous people believe they will get around to it as soon as the Lindsay Warren Bridge over Alligator River is finished. It will be remembered that Mr. Warren led the group of state legislators from several eastern counties in 1959 which brought the commitment from the Highway Commission of which Mel Broughton, Jr. was chairman, whereby both bridges were promised. The commission at that time began making plans for both bridges.

## WILLIAM R. DANIELS AT MERCANT MARINE ACADEMY

William Robert Daniels, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cloyce Daniels of Bethel Park, Pa., formerly of Wanchese, was one of the 350 out of 1200 applicants accepted at the U. S. Merchant Marine Academy, King Point, L. I., New York. This is a four year course. Mr. Daniels is a graduate of Bethel Park High School.