

THE COASTLAND TIMES

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CAMPAIGN LIVENS FOR POLITICIANS AS PRIMARY NEARS

Outcome in Three Dare Races Is Anybody's Guess Pundit Says

By POLLY TICKEN (Special Correspondent)

If you couldn't find your druggist, oil man or attorney this week, don't feel neglected. The three candidates for the General Assembly, who occupy those positions, had all succumbed to the three P disease by Wednesday of this week and were beating the bushes and briar patches of Dare on the campaign trail. Three Ps? Pre-Primary-Panic, that's what. Less than 10 days remain before the May 26 primary.

The outcome still seems as uncertain as the future of the Buxton Inlet, but a few humorous incidents were reported which seemed to break the monotonous but profitable round of baby-kissing and handshaking.

One of the cigar-passing candidates made the fatal mistake of offering a smoke to a prospective voter who was mowing this lawn at Manns Harbor. The skeptical voter was quick to assure the politician that "he'd consider a few turns with the lawn mower as a much bigger favor."

The candidate declined and one of his opponents, anxious to make political hay (or grass) out of the incident, was over the next day pushing the mower and perspiration from his brow to the delight of the neighborhood.

The Registrar of Deeds race, which also promises lively interest, was revitalized this week as Melvin Daniels and Willett Tillett tried to garner votes in their home community of Wanchese. Daniels has said that he's "running with the big carburetor on" against his opponent. Tillett was so busy politicking See **POLITICS**, Page Four

REV. H. E. LEATHERMAN BACCALAUREATE SPEAKER

Principal Clarence Butler of Manteo High School has announced that Rev. Harold F. Leatherman will deliver the baccalaureate sermon to the graduating seniors of 1962. The services will be conducted on Sunday, May 27 at 2 p. m. in the high school.

The principal speaker for the commencement exercises which will be held on May 30 have not been announced, but Nancy Coles Basnight, class valedictorian, and Nancy Lynn Midgett, class salutatorian, will officiate and play prominent roles in the commencement program.

Principal Butler revealed the names of eight other outstanding scholars who will take featured roles in the May 30 services. They are: Mary Faye Rogers, Theodore DeFebio, Darlene Everhart, Nancy Leatherman, Judy Perry, Carol Miller, Dionne Tillett and William White. The principal stated that their scholastic averages had earned them the honor of representing the school at this important event.

Marshals for the baccalaureate and commencement exercises will be: Charles Evans, Susan Basnight, Linda King, Nancy Midgett and Mary Elizabeth Earle.

DARE BOARD CONSIDERS TAX LIEN SALE DELAY

The lien sale date for unpaid taxes may be postponed until September, according to David Stiek, Chairman of the Dare County Board of Commissioners. The board chairman stated this week that the Ash Wednesday Storm had "worked such a hardship" upon many taxpayers that the board may postpone the lien sale date from the contemplated June 30 deadline until Labor Day.

The lien sale, which was held in August during 1961, had been traditionally conducted on Labor Day in years past. Stiek said the more recent "up-dating" for the sale was considered necessary by the commissioners "in order to get tax money when funds were more plentiful during the summer months." The tax lien sale will be one of the items of discussion when the Dare County Board meets again on June 4.

BESSIE DRAPER RECOVERS

Miss Bessie Draper, county nurse, who became ill last Friday and was taken to the hospital in Norfolk, is reported to be in "good" condition by her physicians at Norfolk General Hospital.

KICK-OFF BREAKFAST FOR RIHA'S 1962 MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



MRS. BURWELL EVANS, Chairman, (second from right) is shown addressing the fifteen area chairmen who will compose the sales force for the 1962 Roanoke Island Historical Association Membership Drive in Dare County. The area chairmen were treated to a "kick-off breakfast" at the Manteo Motel last Friday before soliciting subscriptions which are the bread and butter for "The Lost Colony."

BONNER ANNOUNCES HARBOR EXTENSION FOR WANCHESE AREA

Representative Herbert C. Bonner announced this week that the Army will enlarge the boat harbor at Wanchese, provided local interests make their required contribution to the \$24,000 project.

The enlargement will provide a northwest extension of the existing harbor basin to relieve harbor congestion by dredging an additional basin area about 325 feet long and 180 feet wide to a depth of 12 feet. Major General R. G. MacDonnell, director of civil works for the Corps of Engineers, has stated that initial costs for the project have been estimated at \$24,000.

Local costs are said to be in the neighborhood of \$1,000. The Dare County Board of Commissioners has indicated a willingness to provide local sponsorship for the project and Commissioner Lawrence Swain stated Wednesday that "I feel sure that the county commissioners and the people of the Wanchese community will meet this part of their obligation."

Local participation would include the provision of all lands, easements and rights-of-way required for the construction and subsequent maintenance of the project, including suitable areas for disposal of spoil material. In addition, the local sponsor must agree to hold and save the United States free from damages due to construction and maintenance. The county must also provide a public landing available to the public on equal terms, MacDonnell stated.

The Wanchese dock, which was constructed under the supervision of the county board has already been completed to meet the "public landing" requirement for the project. The dock, which was completed in March of this year is still being improved by the county.

Authority for the Wanchese work is provided by section 107 of the 1960 Rivers and Harbors Act which was introduced by Representative Bonner. Accomplishment of the project will be dependent upon appropriations for work under the Section 107 program. The Corps of Engineers budget for fiscal year 1963 contains a request for funds to complete the Section 107 program. If the requested funds are actually appropriated, the federal share of the Wanchese Harbor project can be financed in the coming fiscal year of 1963.

MUSICORIUM TO SWELL AS GRIFFITH AND BELL GIVE MUSICAL RECITAL

Miss Andy (Barbara) Griffith and Mrs. John Bell will present their third recital in the Rennie Williamson Concert Series for 1962 at The Musicorium on Monday Night, May 21 at 8:30 p. m.

The Manteo Music Club and its friends are cordially invited to attend this cultural function which will be presented by Mesdames Griffith and Bell. Mrs. Griffith, a chanteuse extraordinary, will be accompanied by Mrs. Bell at the piano during a delightful hour of miscellaneous musicals. Mrs. Bell has consented to embellish the last portion of the concert with her usual excellence at the keys.

IMITATION GUN IS NO FUN FOR "AXECITED" GAL

A defendant who pulled a toy gun on his girl friend because, he said, "she chased me with an axe" was found innocent of an assault with a deadly weapon, but drew a \$25 fine for trespassing in Dare Recorder's Court on Tuesday.

Edward Ashby, a colored defendant from Manteo told the court that he was being pursued by the axe-bearing Miss Ella Mae Meekins on May 6, and that he pulled the plastic "toy" from his car and pointed it at her "threatening to blow her head off if she hit me with it." Both escaped from the incident unscathed, but Ella Meekins was present to testify concerning the alleged assault in court.

She stated that Ashby had come to her house "looking for Delton Simmons" and that she had told him earlier on the same evening to get off her property. Miss Meekins stated that the toy pistol introduced as evidence was not the gun with which she was threatened. Miss Meekins asserted that the barrel of the gun which Ashby pointed at her "was a lot longer" than the toy snub-nosed revolver produced in court. The defendant said "she was so scared to notice whether what I had was real or not" during his portion of the testimony. The axe, whose authenticity was never questioned by either party to the dispute, was not submitted as evidence to the court.

Judge W. F. Baum stated that he found it "hard to get somebody for assault with a deadly weapon when the only gun involved seems to be a toy" and fined the defendant \$25 and costs for trespass at the home of Ella Meekins.

The court also found Sheldon Alvin Gaimel of Kitty Hawk See **COURT**, Page Four

PERRY RE-ELECTED HEAD OF DARE DEMO.

Walter D. Perry defeated E. P. White of Buxton for the chairmanship of the Dare County Democrats by a two vote margin on Saturday. Perry, a Kitty Hawk native, retained his office in a 16-14 vote by precinct chairman and vice-chairman at the Dare County Democratic Convention, which was held at 2 p. m. in the Dare County Courthouse. More than 65 party faithful were on hand for the pre-primary event.

Perry said, after his election, that he would "serve no special interests" during his term of office and called upon Democrats to "join ranks in defeating the Republicans in November."

The orderly meeting also furnished three new vice-chairmen and a new secretary-treasurer. Mrs. Nancy Beals, E. P. White and Dr. W. W. Harvey, Jr., were elected 1st, 2nd and 3rd vice-chairmen, and John Wright was appointed as secretary-treasurer for the Dare Democrats.

Robert Midgett, who had served as secretary-treasurer for the past 14 years addressed the assembled delegates and thanked the group for the "loyal support and friendship" which he had been shown while serving in that capacity. He had previously announced that other obligations prevented his serving another term.

GARDEN CLUB SHOW BLOSSOMS SATURDAY 10 CLASSES ENTERED

The annual flower show of the Roanoke Island Garden Club, "Springtime on Parade," will be held this Saturday, May 19 from 2 to 9 p. m., at the Community Building in Manteo. The show will consist of 10 classes of five exhibits each.

A list of the classes is as follows:

1. An arrangement suitable for a church.
2. Gifts from the sea. A composition using driftwood, shells etc.
3. Line, with or without accessories.
4. Special container with accessories.
5. Arrangement of foliage with flowers of one color.
6. Arrangement with vegetables as flowers.
7. Massed arrangement of different flowers grading in color from deep to pale or white.
8. Potted plants.
9. An old fashioned bouquet.
10. Miniature arrangement, not over 6 in. including container. See **SHOW**, Page Four

Gum Neck Citizens Plan Watershed Project To Protect Landowners

Agricultural Agencies and Local Government Join Hands for Conservation in Tyrrell

By BLANCHE W. COHOON

Strong winds associated with the Atlantic Storm of March the 7th drove water into Gum Neck Community in Tyrrell County. It was the highest since 1933 local residents say. Low temperatures, strong winds, rain, snow, and the high water, added up to a bad day in Gum Neck. Residents of the community suffered considerable loss but nothing compared to what the loss would have been had there been crops in the fields.

Gum Neck has long been plagued with the problems of flooding and poor outlet conditions for draining the excellent farm land of the community. The local people hope this will be the storm that will inundate their land. They have been working together since 1958 toward a watershed project. The plan has been prepared with the assistance of the Soil Conservation Service, and is in Congress awaiting final approval.

The local people are organizing a drainage district to be eligible for public law 566, watershed funds. It is expected that construction will be started on the project this year. When it is complete, Work Unit Conservationist Clyde S. Sawyer believes it will prevent floods like the one just experienced.

Structural features of the project will include a dike 5-6 ft. high, which will keep flood water out of Gum Neck. A pumping station will be built to pump water out of the community. The station will have a capacity of about 210,000 gallons water per minute. Tide gates, eight of them, will be installed to allow excessive rain water to float. New canals will be cut and existing canals improved to carry water from the farm land to the pumps and tide gates. Individual landowners in Gum Neck will be installing lateral ditches, conservation cropping systems, cover crops, crop residue, field borders, surface inlets and other conservation practices to take advantage of their watershed project.

The community will soon have a new look, protected from flooding, with an improved conservation program on the land, brought about by people working together in cooperation with their Soil Conservation District, Agricultural agencies local, state and Federal governments.

NED DRINKWATER 90 IS LANDMARK VIRGINIA BEACH

Older Brother of Alpheus, Going Strong; One of Large Family From Dare County

Manteo has its Alpheus Drinkwater who is nationally famous by virtue of the association of his name with the early exploits of the Wright Brothers at Kill Devil Hills, but not so many people know his brother Ned who is a retired Coast Guardsman living at Virginia Beach, and who is the holder of much valuable property. He and his brother Alpheus are two of the many sons of the late Ned Drinkwater and Josephine Etheridge Drinkwater, who formerly lived in Dare County, variously at Stumpy Point, Bodie Island, and Roanoke Island. The elder Ned Drinkwater was a prominent figure in the old Life Saving Service.

Regarding this interesting man, who is somewhat older than his brother Alph, and apparently more active, the Virginia Beach Sun News this month carried the following article which will be of great interest to people in the Walter Raleigh Coastland of North Carolina.

By RUBY JEAN PHILLIPS

Every day, weather permitting, Capt. Edward Drinkwater leaves his 25th Street home for his farm near Seatack where he spends the better part of the day caring for the 25 steers he keeps there. He never misses a day though last month he celebrated his 90th birthday.

"Capt." Drinkwater, a rank his age has awarded him, now holds the position of the oldest male resident of Virginia Beach, yet his keen mind and enthusiasm are the envy of men many years his junior.

He came here from North Carolina when he was a just a toddler; his father was keeper of the old life saving station. "Why Virginia Beach was just a wilderness in those days," he commented. "The growth was so thick it'd take the curl out of a rabbit's tail. There were no houses. The only activity here were the two men who fished along the beach and took their catches See **LANDMARK**, Page Five

COLUMBIA GIRL GETS G.E.X. SCHOLARSHIP



MISS NANCY HASSELL Senior of Columbia High School was presented with a one-year Scholarship to any college she chooses at the school on Friday May 11th.

The scholarship is awarded to students from G.E.X., membership for outstanding ability, studiousness, perseverance and of leadership potential. It was presented by Joe F. Witsken, Director Membership Relations of G. E. X., Norfolk, Va. Miss Hassell was picked by the Council, Scholarship Committee of G. E. X. Member Advisory.

Nancy was one of the six winners selected from hundreds of outstanding applicants. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Iredell Hassell of 401 West Colonial Ave. Elizabeth City, former residents of Columbia. Mr. Hassell is employed at the Norfolk Naval Base.

Not only has Nancy been so honored but she has received a \$100. Scholarship from the "College of the Albemarle" of Elizabeth City.

At the presentation of the one-year scholarship, the principal of Columbia High School, W. J. Taylor Jr. had this to say about Nancy: "It is felt that Nancy has demonstrated those qualities and characteristics attributed to a good student, and it is also felt that she has the desire and determination to be See **GIRL**, Page Four

MANTEO BAPTISTS HOMECOMING SET FOR THIS SUNDAY

Manteo Baptist Church will observe its annual homecoming Sunday with the activities of the day beginning at 9:45 a. m.

Dr. E. L. Spivey, Director of Missions for the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina with headquarters in Raleigh, will be the guest speaker and will deliver the annual Homecoming Day Sermon at the eleven o'clock worship hour.

The schedule of services for the day are as follows: 9:45 Sunday School; 11:00 Morning Worship (Dr. Spivey speaking); 12:15 noon, an old fashioned picnic dinner on the grounds; and 1:30-2:30, old fashion gospel by the congregation and choirs from the several churches on the island.

The Pastor, Rev. M. J. Davis joins the congregation of the church in extending a very cordial invitation to the public to join them in this joyous occasion.

The nursery will be open for the convenience of those with children three years of age and under.

There will be no night services this Sunday, but regular services will be resumed next week.

CORRESPONDENTS ... MAIL COPY EARLIER ADVERTISERS ... NOTE!

In order to balance the production schedule, The Coastland Times again reminds its correspondents to submit material for publication early in the week. Personal items and the like, should be mailed no later than Monday or delivered to the printing plant in Manteo no later than Tuesday. Henceforth, material received later than noon Wednesday will likely be held for the following week, if still timely. Otherwise, it will be discarded.

We will appreciate your cooperation, which should enable us to provide a better publication, delivered on an earlier schedule. A advertising deadline remains Wednesday noon, although earlier submission provides ample time for proper attention.

BEST IN 25 YEARS ANGLERS TESTIFY ON BLUEFISH RUN

Bluefish Catches From Surf, Sea or Sound Waters Are Whoppers

Bluefish catches on the Outer Banks are the best in 25 years. Old timers from Currituck to Ocracoke have indicated that the phenomenal run of blues is the best seen on the coast since the 1930s.

Whether the angler has been trolling the sounds at Oregon and Hatteras Inlets, casting the surf or fishing from ocean piers, the results have all been the same—fantastic!

Capt. Lee Perry, skipper of the charter cruiser "Deepwater," has stated that: "Our parties have caught from 200 to 400 blues daily, for a total in excess of 3,000 in 10 days." With 15 or more cruisers operating consistently in the area, observers have reported that more than 25,000 blues have been taken with lures by parties trolling in the wake of charter boats at Oregon Inlet. Additional thousands have been taken from Hatteras Inlet and the adjacent waters of Pamlico Sound.

Best proof of the fantastic run is evidenced by the fact that thousands more of the scrappy fighters, all mostly in the one to two pound class, have been reeled in by anglers fishing from the surf. Surf fishing is said to be terrific at Hatteras Island, and from the five ocean piers between Kitty Hawk and Hatteras Inlet.

George Dykstra, operator of a fishing center at the west end of the Roanoke Island-Nags Head bridge has reported that many blues are also being taken in the brackish waters of the sound adjacent to the span. "I caught 14, going to one and one half pounds, from an outboard in less than half an hour," he said.

Mrs. Delphine Williams of Richmond, Va., a former Ocracoke resident, says that drum are also biting on the Banks and she landed a 6 1/2 pound black drum to prove it. The uncanny See **FISHING**, Page Eight

PLANE WRECKAGE IN TYRRELL CO. INVESTIGATED

A crew of West Virginia workmen have uncovered remnants of an AD4 Skyraider while working in the swamps approximately 30 miles south of Columbia. Navy records have revealed that three AD4s were lost in the Virginia-North Carolina Dismal Swamp area during a period between 1955 and 1958, and an investigation of the wreckage has been ordered.

Remnants of a wing and tail section were discovered by a logging crew of the West Virginia Pulp and Paper Co. last Thursday and serial numbers of these parts have been forwarded to Douglas Aircraft Co. for positive identification of the plane.

An investigation board composed of two officers from the Oceana Naval Air Station is now said to be trying to identify the aircraft and determine the circumstances surrounding its crash. A Navy spokesman has said that the base location for the plane cannot be determined until a bureau number for the plane is established. The bureau number will aid in learning whether a pilot was lost in the crash, he said.

Investigators have indicated that the cockpit area and fuselage are buried at an undetermined depth in the mud and water of the swamp. Efforts are being continued to recover parts of the aircraft.

RANDOLPH O'NEAL NAMED WANCHESE POSTMASTER

WASHINGTON — Randolph G. O'Neal Jr., has been appointed permanent postmaster of Wanchese, N. C., Rep. Herbert C. Bonner, D-N. C., announced Tuesday.

Bonner said that O'Neal, who has been serving as acting postmaster, made the highest score on the competitive civil service examination of any candidate for the position which was last year.

There was no one in the Wanchese community who opposed Mr. O'Neal's appointment, which speaks in itself for community interest and solidarity. Mr. O'Neal is a leader in civic affairs, and is Vice-President of the local Brittan club.

DRINKWATER CREW REPORTED STEWED ON STATE'S FERRY

Four Members of Oregon Inlet Ferry Boat Crew Fired

A drinking ferry crew is reported to have turned the A. W. Drinkwater into an instrument of vengeance last Thursday, as passengers were insulted and "roughed up" while making the usually routine crossing from North to South Oregon Inlet.

Confronted with reports of the intentional ramming of the ferry dock and the alleged assault upon Antony Stewart, a photographer for "National Geographic," Ferry Operations Manager D. W. Patrick fired members of the crew and ordered an investigation into the matter.

Woodrow W. Baum, pilot; R. L. Mason, engine room worker and R. W. Cartwright, deck hand, all of Kitty Hawk, were fired immediately after the incident occurred. Another deck hand, Kenneth E. Barnes of Currituck, is also reported to have been dismissed.

Patrick declined to give his reasons for the wholesale firing on Friday of last week and announced of Saturday that the investigation would be completed by Monday. On Tuesday, the operations manager stated that his report would be sent to Highway Commissioner Merrill Evans, for release from the State Highway Office in Raleigh.

Patrick has stated that he does not intend to prefer charges and has indicated that any action will have to come from the Dare County Sheriff's office.

Deputy Sheriff Raymond Bassett of Hatteras has stated that he investigated the incident in question on Thursday after receiving a phone call from the Coast Guard headquarters there, about complaints from passengers on board the ferry who desired to speak to a law officer. Bassett has indicated that passengers complained of "drinking on the part of the crew and their pilot," when the officer arrived shortly after the ferry's departure for the north shore.

Bassett said that several of the passengers stated to him that "after reaching the south shore, the engines were reversed and the ferry was rammed into the side of the dock at Hatteras. . . just like a drunken driver would do with an auto." The deputy indicated that reports he has received indicate that the pilot of the ferry, Woodrow W. Baum, staggered down to the deck after a commotion started on the part of car owners who were on board.

Anthony Stewart, the photographer from "National Geographic" has stated that he "does not care to become involved" and has refused to discuss his part in the incident. Bassett says that passengers noted that Stewart was "roughed up" by crew members and stated that observers have reported Stewart's car being driven off the ferry by one of the crew members, after the photographer had fled to safety. Stewart and Nat Kenny, another staff member of the "Geographic" were on the Outer Banks to do a feature story about the area for the magazine.

Patrick, who has refused to comment about the incident, did disclose that the dock on the south shore has received "about \$50 damage to the ramp."

Woodrow Baum, the ferry pilot who was fired, has stated that "Patrick claimed we were drunk and none of us were." Baum has said that a disturbance did occur on board his ferry when "the photographer" wanted to take some of the wooden blocks and "the boys told him he couldn't have any." Baum says that "none of the crew members were drinking at the time," and says that "neither the photographer or that other man from the magazine was touched." Baum says that he went on deck to investigate after hearing the photographer "cussing the crew."

Baum said he couldn't understand why Mason, the engine room worker was fired "because he never went above the deck." Bassett, the investigating deputy has stated that all of the dismissed employees were observed to be "in an intoxicated state." See **FERRY**, Page Eight