

# THE COASTLAND TIMES

WITH WHICH IS COMBINED THE PILOT AND HERALD OF BELHAVEN AND SWAN QUARTER  
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MANTEO, N. C., FRIDAY MARCH 8, 1963

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## DARE BOARD WOULD STAY PUT IN JOB

### Citizens Would Have Little Chance to Change Commis- sioners; 4-Year Terms Proposed

Perpetuation in office for the Commissioners of Dare County is the apparent motivation behind a bill introduced by Dare Rep. M. L. Daniels, Jr. in Raleigh on Tuesday of this week. The bill, if approved, would rule out the possibility of voters making a clean sweep of the board in forthcoming elections all at once, which of course, has some merit. But for those who are interested in making changes of those entrusted with county affairs but who have only milked the public till at every opportunity, a sad day will come if the proposed legislation is approved.

In addition, legislation would, to double the calamity, set the Commissioners up for a four-year term, rather than the present two, which is customary and adhered to by the majority of counties in our area.

Under terms of the bill introduced, Commissioners from Nags Head and Hatteras townships would automatically have their terms extended an additional two years. This would mean that Lawrence L. Swain of Manteo, Board Chairman, and George R. Fuller from Buxton would be held for two more years whether the public liked it or not. They were both re-elected to their posts for two years last May after a campaign in which strong opposition was apparent. Swain has served several terms on the board, but the present is his first in the contented post of chairman. Fuller is serving his third term.

The three other townships — Atlantic, Croatan and Kinnakeet — would elect commissioners in 1964 for four-year terms. Rep. Daniels, it is reported, made the statement this week that: "Many times, as a result, (of clean-sweep apparently) worthwhile starts have been shelved or minimized before they were given a chance to really get started."

## HYDE TO VOTE ON SCHOOL BOND ISSUE ON MAY 25

A special school bond election has been set for May 25 by the Hyde County Board of Commissioners. At that time the citizens of the county will vote for or against a \$50,000 bond issue for the purpose of constructing new school buildings, school garages, educational and vocational buildings, teacherages, lunch rooms and other facilities as needed in connection with the school system; and the reconstruction of existing facilities, also for or against consolidation of the East Hyde and West Hyde schools, the consolidated unit to be at the Matamusket School site near the intersection of highways 64 and 294.

A grand jury report in 1962 held that both schools above mentioned had unsafe facilities.

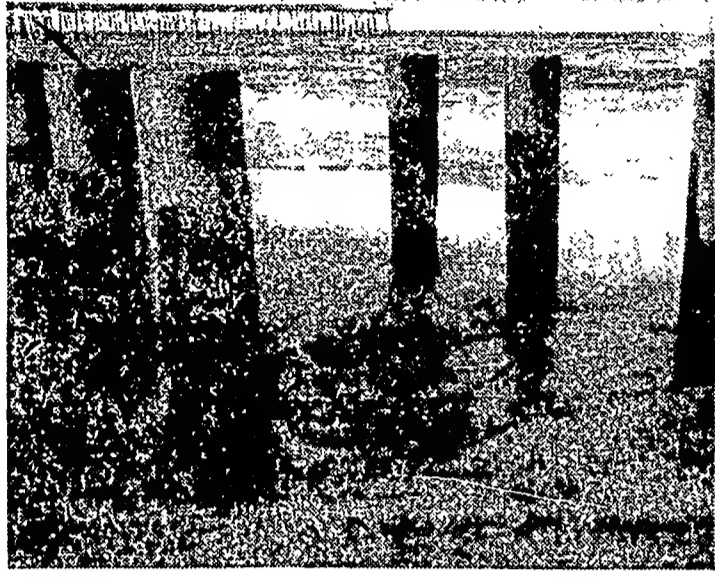
## IF YOU WANT TO ACT

### LOST COLONY TRYOUTS TO BE HELD IN MANTEO ON SUNDAY, MARCH 24

Tryouts for roles in the 1963 production of Paul Green's symphonic drama, "The Lost Colony," will be held in Manteo at the Community Building on Sunday, March 24 at 4 p.m., it has been announced by John Fox, general manager of the show.

The tryouts, and auditions for those seeking speaking roles, will be held under the direction of William L. Long of Winthrop College, Rock Hill, S. C. He has been named as director of the drama following many years as its technical director, and he succeeds the late Clifton Britton.

## COULD THIS PRINCIPLE BE USED TO COMBAT EROSION?



PILING AND PIPE have been combined in this project at Nags Head, which was installed last spring and summer as a matter of drain for water standing in areas between the old and new highways. It has served its original purpose with a good degree of efficiency, but in addition has proved itself effective in stabilizing and building the beach. It is located east of the town office's former location, for all who care to take a look at it.

## AT NAGS HEAD BEACH MOVES EAST, A BONUS RESULT OF DRAINAGE PROJECT

In this day of great talk about combating beach erosion, and when so many projects for the saving of our coastline have failed, it would be well for interested parties to take a better look at one area in particular. That area is east of the former Nags Head town office.

To be best observed, one should go to the site at low water. Following last year's extensive flooding from the Ash Wednesday storm, much of the area between Highways 158 and 158 By-Pass was plagued with water standing in low-lying areas. This situation existed more or less, perhaps, in the area mentioned. At any rate, local and state officials decided upon the installation of a drain from the west side of Highway 158 Business out to the ocean.

Consisting of two mains, each four feet in diameter, the lines lead eastward and at the time they were laid, jutting into the ocean several feet, even on low water. It required considerable patience, and several delays were experienced because of rough sea conditions, but the project was finally considered advanced enough to leave it for then. At that time, and to this date, two more lengths of pipe 15 feet long remain to be positioned before the project can be considered complete.

The pipes were strapped to concrete piling holding them in position to avoid damage when the surf is turbulent. Today the pipes are not visible. They have become encased in sand. On low water, it is maybe possible to drive a vehicle east of where the pipes now end, indicating a build-out of the beach of some 40 to 50 feet. Additionally, the beach's height has increased, and for a stretch of some 300 feet in either direction, it is plainly visible that a change has taken place.

Original Idea Working  
With all this sand encasement, it would seem that drainage would stop. This is not the case, for so far as we have been able to determine, one or the other.

## BELHAVEN BOARD SEEKS TO ABOLISH ITS L & W GROUP

A resolution to request the State legislature to abolish the Belhaven Light and Water Board was passed Monday night when the town aldermen met, and agreed that the light and water group is no longer necessary. Representative Wayland Scrimmon has been asked to present the bill.

Mrs. Elizabeth Windley was appointed registrar for the election of town officials, the primary to be held April 8, the general election May 7. The books will be open the four Saturdays preceding the primary.

Permission was granted the American Legion and the Fire Department to sponsor a rides concession on July 4. A decision was made to have the rescue service ambulance painted.

Expressing thanks for the protective clothing issued the firemen, Fire Chief Leon Smith reported four local alarms during February, a total of \$1,015 damage resulting from one of the four.

## BONNER AND LOCAL PEOPLE ARE PRAISED

### Assurance of Continued Effort To Provide Roadway to Hat- teras by Easter Given

Congressman Herbert Bonner's continued interest in the welfare and progress of Dare County and the coastland generally, has again paid off in promise in a letter this week from Col. J. S. Grygiel, head of the Corps of Engineers at Wilmington, who has given assurance that the work of closing the inlet north of Buxton and effort for building a road by Easter will continue unabated. Extra funds have been appropriated to provide a dike, and with the aid of National Park Service funds the total diking will extend for about a mile in length.

Col. Grygiel gives high praise to the efforts of the local citizens who in his opinion contributed to the closing of the inlet. Without the Congressman's steady aid it is possible the situation would not have been so clearly brought to the attention of the proper authorities, and most likely insufficient federal funds would have been made available for this work. Fortunately for Dare County has been intense interest and sense of fairness of Mr. Bonner. Col. Grygiel's letter follows:

Reference is made to your letter dated January 16, 1963, and to the reply dated January 18, 1963 concerning the use of a second dredge to close Buxton Inlet, N. C.; I promised to keep you informed on the project.

Mainly because of adverse weather the one dredge HAMPTON ROADS was not making satisfactory progress, so I did negotiate with Mr. D. D. Atkinson, Atkinson Dredging Company, to divert his other dredge, ENTERPRISE from the Wilmington Harbor project to Buxton Inlet.

The ENTERPRISE joined the HAMPTON ROADS and started pumping February 17; the flow of water through the inlet was stopped on February 20. I must, incidentally, mention the heroic efforts of the local citizens, undertaken on their own initiative, to retard the erosion which was taking place at and near the inlet, by sandbagging and dumping junk into the affected areas. They received splendid support from the local U. S. Naval and U. S. Coast Guard facilities, the National Park Service, Camp Lejeune, and the State Highway Commission. These efforts definitely did contribute to the successful closure of the inlet.

To preclude another breakthrough by future severe storms, the Office of Emergency Planning had furnished funds to provide a substantial dike at the inlet and at the badly eroded sections on either side of and adjacent to the inlet—2000 feet to the north and 3000 feet to the south. The National Park Service requested (wisely in my opinion) that the dike be further extended 2300 feet to the north and 2900 feet to the south. See INLET, Page Three

## ON HATTERAS ISLAND

### OFFICIALS TO SURVEY INLET AREA ON FRIDAY

On Friday morning, representatives of various cooperating agencies are expected to visit the Buxton inlet area, to work out plans for the final chapter in the year-old project. Col. J. S. Grygiel, and D. A. Gardner, chief of operations, of the Wilmington district, will visit the site, accompanied by Ray Rundell, assistant superintendent, Cape Hatteras National Seashore. Also expected to be on the scene is L. L. Swain, Chairman, Dare County Board of Commissioners.

The main purpose of the visitation will be to finalize plans for the last stage of the closure and stabilizing operation, which will consist of building adequate barrier dunes in an effort to prevent further catastrophes of this kind. It is estimated that approximately \$100,000 will be required to replace and bring to safety proportions the dune structure in the inlet area. Funds for this work will be made available through Park Service emergency sources.

The two Atkinson Dredging Company-owned pipeline dredges, Hampton and Enterprise, mean-

## NEW SUPERINTENDENT OF C.H.N. SEASHORE



JAMES B. MYERS, recently-appointed Superintendent of Cape Hatteras National Seashore, arrived on the coast Monday afternoon. He comes to new job from Gettysburg, Pa., where he has been superintendent of Gettysburg National Military Park since 1958. He succeeds H. Reese Smith, superintendent of CHNS for approximately a year, who was recently appointed Chief Engineer for the Park Service's Eastern Office of Design and Construction in Philadelphia.

Myers is a native of Mount Sydney, Va., and holds an A. B. degree from Bridgewater College in Virginia. He has been with the Park Service since 1912. See MYERS, Page Three

## BAND INSTRUCTOR ASKED OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

### Roanoke School Requests Facili- ties Including New Class- room, Lunchroom Expansion

A special session of the Dare County Board of Education was held Monday morning in Manteo with the following members present: Chairman Robert O. Ballance and Mrs. T. H. Briggs, Mrs. T. Williams III, Floyd L. Hooper and W. P. Dillon. Meeting with the board were incoming members, Mrs. Milton Perry and Jack Cahoon.

A request for a band director for Manteo High School, such director to also teach public school music in the Manteo Elementary School, was made by a PTA committee, J. W. Korbaeh, Jr., Miss Mabel Jean Basnight and C. H. Butler. No action was taken, but arrangements were made to investigate the possibility.

Framed resolutions of appreciation were presented to R. O. Ballance and Mrs. T. H. Briggs, whose terms on the board will terminate this spring, by Mrs. Mary L. Evans, county superintendent.

Budget requests from the various schools were presented by Mrs. Evans; also a petition signed by 131 residents of the Negro community, asking for two showers with hot and cold water, to be used after physical education classes, expanded lunchroom and kitchen facilities and a new classroom, all for the Roanoke School.

## WATERWAYS GROUP WILL MEET SAT.

### Further Discussion of Inlet and Channel Deepening To Be Talked

Dr. W. W. Harvey, Jr., Chairman of the Dare County Waterways Improvement Committee, has issued an invitation to all interested parties to attend the meeting scheduled for Saturday night relative to harbor and channel improvements being sought. The group will gather at the Dare County Courthouse at 8 p.m. Saturday night, March 9.

The session scheduled for Saturday night will follow by two weeks a meeting of the same organization held at Wanchese, when a long-range plan for greater water depth in the channels leading to Wanchese and across the bar to Oregon Inlet was presented. Only a few persons were present at the previous meeting, and Dr. Harvey has urged "all interested in waterways improvements to attend" and express themselves.

The Dare County Board of Commissioners, for whatever it is worth, on Monday recognized the proposals of the Waterways Committee, and motioned that the U. S. Congress direct the Army Engineers to make a thorough study of the feasibility of deepening the inlet and channels in question. The matter of stabilizing location of the channels is also requested, but in this matter the Engineers have already made their position clear with particular reference to the one passing under Oregon Inlet bridge. This was one of the weighty problems in finalizing plans for the structure.

A desired depth of 21 feet through the sound channels and across the Oregon Inlet bar is noted in the proposals, which would add 7 feet to the depth as is presently assured on a permanent basis. Quite often, however, storm tides fill the channels, limiting depth to as little as six feet or so in places.

## FIVE-YEAR-OLD BELHAVEN GIRL FATALLY KILLED

### Melody Ann Harris Killed By Falling Rafter in Freakish Wind As She Played

Melody Ann Harris, five-year-old daughter of Edward Lee and Joyce Hodges Harris of Belhaven, was fatally injured Tuesday afternoon when a sudden gust of wind toppled the partially-built boat shelter she was playing in and she was hit on the head by a two-by-four rafter.

Surviving in addition to her parents are one brother, Edward Lee Harris, Jr., of the home; her maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Hodges of Belhaven; and her paternal grandparents, Mike Harris and Mrs. Rad Jones, both of Belhaven.

Funeral services were held at two o'clock Thursday afternoon in the Paul Funeral Chapel by the Rev. Angus Miller and the Rev. A. J. Mackie. Burial was in the Belhaven Community Cemetery. Pallbearers were Cliff Jones, Ellis Ross, Jr., Linville Midgett and Charles Smith.

## SCOGGINS COMPLETES HIS PROBATIONARY PERIOD

Albert B. (Ted) Scoggins, for some over a year employed by Dare County in the courthouse, assigned to tax collection duties, was this week given the okay sign from the board of commissioners, who placed him on a permanent basis. Scoggins, who was employed "temporarily" during the rush of getting out tax notices, now is qualified for the post of deputy tax collector and delinquent tax collector. He also got a boost in salary of \$25 a month, which makes his annual salary \$3900.

The post of tax collector will be created if proposed legislation follows, separating the duties of the sheriff, who is now charged with that responsibility, but at present being done largely through extra courthouse employees. The sheriff's responsibilities will then be restricted, and it would seem that some extra personnel in that department could be discharged. Such will not be the case, however, if we know Dare County politics.

## CUBAN CRISIS PRECIPITATED DARE'S SWAMPLAND CHOICE AS AIR FORCE TARGET

### Decision Based on Report of Governor's Committee, Despite Protests of Congress- man Herbert Bonner Against Location in This District; With Soviet Guns Pointed at America, Action Taken Whereby U. S. Planes May Be Nigh Site of Possible Dis- aster, To Protect Us.

Something of a fanfare and farouche motivated apparently by a juvenile and immature spirit of personal spite against Congressman Herbert C. Bonner has been raised by one person, who through the fortunes, or rather misfortunes of politics has been entrusted with the responsibility of being spokesman for Dare County in the Legislature, but it has brought forth ample evidence of refutation.

This has to do with the choice of the Air Force of a portion of the southwest end of Dare County as a target range for U. S. airplanes, after a long and serious effort by Congressman Bonner to keep the range out of Dare and its neighboring counties, of which most of the arguments have been based on prejudice and supposition. Governor Sanford appointed a special committee to study the situation from all angles, including the hazard of fire, and the report indicates there would be less chance of damage to the woods by fire than would happen if an ordinary airplane crashed into the woods.

So far as this newspaper has been able to ascertain there has been no apparent notice in this area of the decision of the Air Force about the choice of the land in question. This land, owned by West Virginia Pulp & Paper Co. has been often referred to as the most desolate region of the Coastland, its vegetation being killed time after time by salt deposits from hurricane tides, and the dead trees in later years standing dead and dry, to create the most terrific forest fires in this entire area of the state. One may see samples of it on the road between Stumpy Point and Hyde County.

It has repeatedly resisted the splendid efforts of the company at reforestation, so successful in other areas of its property.

Congressman Bonner, over a period of several months, through the weight of his prestige and friendships in Congress has been able to get the Air Force to delay action, and in response to popular demand to keep the range out of the Matamusket and Lake Phelps areas where there is greater development and many improvements, but there does come a moment of decision, when the national safety and the lives of our people are imperiled and the Air Force has to make a decision. That decision has had to be RANGE, Page Three

## TRAVELERS INCREASE AS A TOUCH OF SPRINGTIME BEFALLS THE COASTLAND

Coastlanders got a good taste of spring early this week, and using the travel count as barometer of the forthcoming season, it appears that a bumper year may be in store. As temperatures soared upward to the mid-seventies during early week, considerable increase in out-of-state travel was noted through the area, perhaps from Yankovic on the way north from Florida. At any rate, it proved an assist to gas stations, in addition to the proprietors of overnight accommodations and restaurants.

In quite considerable contrast to last week's weather which provided rain, sleet, snow and general sloppy conditions was the balmy spell, which began late last week, providing citizens with the first extended break in the severely cold winter. Even on Monday morning, despite warming temperatures which reached the mid-sixties on Sunday, snow was observed in several places where it had drifted heavily last week, on the eve of Ash Wednesday.

A better season than ever has been predicted by many tourist operators, with reservations coming in heavier than usual. Their predictions as to the promising season will need justification, in view of the many additional facilities to be provided.

## GOLDSB'RO MAYOR INVITES OFFICIALS TO MEET ON 12TH

### Tour of Seymour-Johnson Base and Explanation of Proposed Range Activities

Scott Berkley, mayor of Goldsboro, appeared before the Dare Board of Commissioners on Tuesday, and extended an invitation to them and other interested parties to visit Seymour-Johnson Air Base with emphasis on bringing about a feasible understanding of the range proposals as would affect Dare County.

The invitation was extended for next Tuesday, March 12, to meet with officials of the city of Goldsboro, Seymour-Johnson AFB, and Army Air Force Tactical Air Command representatives, in an attempt to give all parties concerned a view of the proposals "from bottom to top" and get a "better picture direct from there." Mr. Berkley also advised the local board that in the event of disapproval of the visitation, the Wayne County group could bring facilities to Dare County for illustration in effort to bring about enlightenment on the proposals to locate a bombing range on the Dare mainland, and which would be used heavily by Seymour-Johnson aircraft.

The Dare Board accepted the See VISIT, Page Three

## BETTER PHONE SERVICE SOUGHT AT STUMPY PT.

Residents of Stumpy Point are seeking better telephone connections with adjoining areas, and have prepared under leadership of Horace Hooper a petition which was sent to the Dare County Board this week and endorsed. The community is presently served with limited services, available through an arrangement between Carolina Telephone & Telegraph and Pamlico Power and Light Co. of Engelhard which allows the use of its power line for telephone transmission.

The petition points up the inadequacy of the system in that multi-party lines are required, in addition to poor quality of transmission and inconvenience. Some over twenty subscribers or applicants for service joined in the petition.

## 90-MILE GUSTS SAID AT CAPE HATTERAS WED.

Accompanying springlike weather which has prevailed throughout the coastland during the week, came an unusually strong gust at Cape Hatteras and the lower end of Hatteras Island on Wednesday. Observers say that during a squall which accompanied the wind shift to northwest, velocity of 90 m.p.h. was recorded. Fortunately, no major damages occurred, or have been reported. One year prior was the devastating storm on the coast which cut the inlet near Buxton, as well as doing extensive damage to other beach area. The wind at that time, however, was from the north-east.