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# THE COASTLAND TIMES

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MANTEO, N. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 12, 1963

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SEEK 21-FOOT CHANNEL

## REP. BONNER SUPPORTS FURTHER INLET PROJECT

Congressman Herbert C. Bonner Wednesday of the week came forth with another example of his sincere interest in the coastland, when he offered his valuable support to further improvements of the Oregon Inlet project.

Mr. Bonner requested that the Public Works Committee of the House of Representatives authorize a review of House Document 810, which pertains to waterways in and around Oregon Inlet. At present the project calls for a 14-foot channel across the bar at the inlet, plus 12-foot-deep waterways into Wanchese and Manteo.

Under provisions of the request by Mr. Bonner, and which has support of the Dare County Waterways Improvements Committee, project depth of Oregon Inlet as an aid to navigation would be increased to 21 feet, to cross the bar and into the harbor of Manteo and Wanchese.

A project of this nature, of course, calls for detailed study and sanction by the various engineering departments, and will require some time before the full value may be realized. According to Mr. Bonner, the project must have its feasibility approved by the District Engineers; the South Atlantic Division in Atlanta, Ga., and will later, assuming support from the engineers, necessitate additional funds budgeted for the maintenance thereof.

Dr. W. W. Harvey, Jr. of Manteo, chairman of the Waterways Committee, stated on Thursday that he was "certainly pleased" with the interest Mr. Bonner had taken. "Since 1958 we have been striving to get engineering attention paid our water routes," said Dr. Harvey. "I believe that we are moving forward rapidly."

Mr. Bonner pointed out the necessity of the improvements, noting the increasing use and valuable asset which the Oregon Inlet project provides, especially among the sea-going travel fleet, which finds a favorably located haven in the area, when deep water can be assured.

## OVER 300 CASES HEARD BY BOARD ABOUT STORM LOSS

The Dare County Board of Commissioners met this week as a Board of Equalization and Review, and handled over three hundred cases Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. All requests were from people who suffered damage to their homes or property during the Ash Wednesday Storm of last year.

After a meeting in March, the Board passed a resolution to send out to all claimants a standard form on which to file for the meeting. Along with the application, they were required to bring proof of damage, bills, invoices, or estimates from a reliable contractor. Those who did not have such proof could not be granted a release from taxation in 1962.

Out of the more than 300 applications, about 75 were granted a release. Although some of the applicants appeared in person, most of the claims were made by mail.

## ELIZABETHAN GARDEN IN FULL FLOWER FOR EASTER

The Elizabethan Garden on Roanoke Island is ready to put on a top performance as to blossom for the Easter week end. Dogwoods are expected to reach their peak of bloom within a few days, camellias are still blooming, azaleas are opening, the pansy beds in the formal gardens are lovely, colorful spots, and other flowers are ready to open.

On Monday Mrs. Josie Bennett of Rocky Mount, chairman of the board of trustees of the Elizabethan Garden, accompanied by other interested gardening enthusiasts, visited the Garden and planted 200 rare bulbs. They plan to return in a week or so to plant more bulbs.

## PUBLIC HEARING IS SET FOR APRIL 22 ON NAGS HEAD P.O.

To Be at Nags Head Casino, 2 P.M., with Postal Official Present

Opposition to the proposed Post Office site at Nags Head has resulted in a public hearing. Mayor Julian Oneto announced Wednesday. The meeting, which is open to all interested Nags Head citizens, will be held at the Nags Head Casino April 22nd at 2 P.M.

Tom McKimney, Nags Head Town Commissioner, stated that the meeting was gained as a result of a conversation held by Congressman Herbert C. Bonner with C. T. Gladden, Regional Post Office Director in Atlanta, Georgia. Mr. Bonner informed the director of the strong opposition to the site by residents of the southern part of Nags Head, and explained that residents wanted an open hearing with a Post Office official. In answer, Mr. Gladden is sending R. H. Wilson from the Atlanta office.

The hearing is to hear grievances and suggestions from residents of southern Nags Head, who feel that the proposed new post office site is located too far to the north. The present location, on Hollowell Ave., is situated just two miles south of the Kill Devil Hills. It would be simpler for some people of Nags Head to use the Manteo Post Office than their own proposed new one which is farther away.

Bids for construction at the Hollowell site were to be opened April 8th, but action by the Board of Town Commissioners last week at least postponed such activity until the hearing could be held. Whether the site will be discarded in favor of one more centrally located remains to be seen.

## "I FEEL BETTER THAN WHEN YOUNG" AT AGE OF NINETY-THREE KITTY HAWK WOMAN ACTIVE

A clear, retrospective view of a period of fifty years is rare enough in the memory of one person, but a memory of changes over almost a century is almost nonexistent. Such a memory has Mrs. Mary Midgett of Kitty Hawk, who has spent all of her ninety-three years in the outer banks region.

Mrs. Midgett was born in 1869 on Roanoke Island, the daughter of Truckston Ethridge. Her father "did what most folks back there did," that is, he was a fisherman, farmer, and livestock raiser. Mrs. Midgett spent only her earliest years with her parents, however, and when she was still under school age she moved to Kitty Hawk to live with her aunt and uncle, Mary and John Mann.

In 1886 she was married to a Coast guardsman, Franklin H. Midgett, and raised a family of five girls and five boys. From this family has come her huge clan of today: eighteen grandchildren, twenty-two great grandchildren, and two great-great grandchildren.

Mrs. Midgett was asked to tell us what the land looked like back then. Had it changed? She chuckled and said that it looked nothing like it does today. When she was a child, none of the grass and plant life of the beach was there. "It was just as bald as it could be," she said, waving her hand in a wide arc. "In those days cattle and horses, hogs and sheep covered the beach."

Asked about the education of children when she was growing up, she replied that an average education consisted of only a few years at school. Children were needed at home. She estimated that her own education was less than modern children get by the third grade. School was a luxury. Her aunt and uncle would take her to Colington Island in a little skiff each morning and she would walk the rest of the way on foot.

Mrs. Midgett spent her free time as a child outdoors. She was fond of riding horses, fishing and crabbing. Once she hung her hand in the water over the side of a boat while fishing, and almost touched a huge cottonmouth moccasin. "I never went out again," she said.

She remembers well the first time she saw an automobile. It belonged to her cousins, George and Charles Perry. They drove the car down the coast from Virginia Beach into Kitty Hawk. Quite a commotion was

## NEW PASTOR NAMED FOR BEACH BAPTIST CHURCH



REV. ALBERT BISHOP, of Cedar Mountain, N. C., currently completing his studies at the Southeastern Seminary at Wake Forest, has been called as the new pastor of Nags Head Baptist Church. He began services March 21st at the church, and will continue every Sunday until his work at the Seminary is completed. This summer, he and his family will move Nags Head to take full charge of the church, which has been without a pastor since last summer.

## BLOODMOBILE TO VISIT DARE CO. AGAIN IN MAY

Quota of 90 Pints Sought in Visit Scheduled for 29th at Schoolhouse

Wednesday, May 29th has been set as the date for the 1963 visit of the Dare County Bloodmobile, it was announced by Horace Dough, Co-chairman of the Dare County Blood Program. Facilities will be set up at the gymnasium of the Manteo High School from 10 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Mr. Dough stated that since the area has fallen behind for the past two years, residents should double efforts to contribute. Dare County, which is one chapter in a complex of counties in Southern Virginia and Northern North Carolina, has been assigned a quota of 90 pints. Regional Headquarters at Norfolk warned that any chapter falling too far behind in contribution will be placed on suspension.

The co-chairman, however, expressed his appreciation for the splendid support given the bloodmobile at its last visit, and urges that all persons who could support the forthcoming visit to make plans to do so.

## CHANNEL BASS IN HATTERAS WATERS PLENTIFUL IN WEEK

Channel bass ranging up to 45 pounds each have been caught daily by anglers fishing from local charter cruisers in Hatteras Inlet during the past two weeks.

Season's first, a 44 pounder, was taken by Deputy Sheriff Raymond Bassett of Buxton.

Most outstanding catch, to date, was made by Patricia Leef of Wilmington, Del. Age 10, this young angler boated a 38-pounder one morning during the past week end and returning in the afternoon she hooked and boated a 44 pounder. Patricia was fishing with her father and they were casting from Tex Ballance's cruiser Escape II.

There have been no reports of channel bass being caught in the surf along the Hatteras Island beach. Usually surf casters begin taking channel bass from the surf within a week or two after the first are caught at the inlet or nets of commercial fishermen.

Some of the local piscatorial prognosticators were saying the first channel bass from the surf would be caught during Easter week end on Hatteras Island.

## MANTEO ROTARIANS HEAR RALEIGH REALTOR

L. D. Allen Jr., Raleigh real estate broker, and former president of the N. C. Association of Realtors, was the guest speaker Monday night at the regular meeting of the Manteo Rotary Club. He was presented by Rotarian Ernest Meekins and made an interesting address on the various customs prevailing in real estate transactions, and the precepts of Realtors on all levels.

## ONE-WAY STREETS IN MANTEO BRING FINES APRIL 15

Extras Voted for Town's Water Plant; Other Requests Heard on Monday

At the regular meeting of the Manteo Town Commissioners Monday, the Board approved the one-way street ordinance which goes into effect April 15th. Since the signs have just recently been installed, only "warning" tickets have been issued to violators. After the 15th, however, fines will be collected.

Water Supt. Seldon R. Midgett met with the Board to discuss the condition of the Water Plant. He was authorized to make necessary recommendations for the operation. The Board voted to increase the allotment of gasoline for the plant since operations have increased recently. Also, a discussion was held on the advisability of purchasing a used truck for the plant.

Motions were then approved by the Board to grant a tax permit to Fred Jones, and to purchase for the Fire Dept. 300 feet of daeron fire hose.

## SLATED FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 18 HEARING ON BOMB RANGE IN SENATE NEXT WEEK

After much worry, talk, and local sensation, the Dare County Board of Commissioners has received word from Sen. Sam J. Ervin, Jr. that they will be granted a hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee. This hearing is the last weary step in a fight to block the U. S. Navy-Air Force Bombing range slated for Dare County.

In a meeting last week, in which Navy and Air Force officials met with the County Commissioners and Rep. Herbert C. Bonner, it was explained by the Air Force, as it has been explained repeatedly, that the "harmful effects" that concern many local residents are nonexistent.

Gifted perhaps with some occult sense of prescience, the County Commissioners have raised repeated protest, and now, finally, the fight is being carried to the chambers of Congress.

After the meeting last Wednesday, word was received from Sen. Ervin that he would try to obtain a hearing for the county. Tuesday a telegram was received in this office from Sen. Ervin, stating the hearing was to be held April 18th in the Senate Office Building.

## LARGE MOUTH BASS CATCHES REPORTED

Large mouth bass fishing has been productive for the anglers using live bait, Johnson spoons and porkrind and other lures during the past week.

Julian Oneto, mayor of Nags Head, reported daily catches by anglers fishing in the Nags Head Fresh Ponds and Colington Island bays.

Mrs. Elizabeth Smith, secretary of Nags Head Chamber of Commerce stated that she had also received reports of good bass fishing in Kitty Hawk Bay and Martins Point Creek.

The Daniels brothers, who operate the fishing center at the Little Bridge between Nags Head and Manteo stated that more large mouth bass have been taken by anglers in that area so far this year than any other species.

"Strippers should be showing up almost any day now—as matter of fact they should have been here already," they stated.

Large mouths have also been taken by commercial netters who were actually not fishing for them as they sought hard crabs with nets in lower Croatan and upper Pamlico Sound. It is interesting to note, said one fisherman, that these fresh water species move with the wind times perhaps, to the salt or brackish waters at this sea on of the year.

## SUNRISE SERVICES AT MANTEO METHODIST

Sunrise services will be conducted at six o'clock Easter Sunday morning in Mount Olivet Methodist Church, Manteo. The public is invited to attend this service, which will be conducted by the Rev. Harold F. Leatherman.

## PIEDMONT MINISTER TO HOLD REVIVAL IN MANTEO



REV. M. W. SHAW, pastor of Lewisville Baptist Church in Forsythe County, N. C. will conduct revival services in Manteo next week. Services are to be held each evening, beginning Monday April 15 through Sunday the 21st in Manteo Baptist Church, beginning at 7:30 each evening.

Rev. Francis L. Cordrey, pastor of Columbia and Sound Side Baptist Churches in Tyrrell County, will serve as host minister for the occasion. The public is cordially invited.

## AIRMAN BALLANCE NOW AT SHEPPARD



LACKLAND AFB, Tex.—Airman Basic Jackie E. Ballance, son of Mr. and Mrs. Roland L. Ballance Sr. of Kill Devil Hills, is being reassigned to Sheppard AFB, Tex., for technical training as a United States Air Force aircraft maintenance specialist.

Airman Ballance, who enlisted in the Air Force a short time ago, has completed his initial basic military training here.

The airman is a 1961 graduate of Elizabeth City (N. C.) High School.

## WEEK END RAINS HELP EXTINGUISH FIRES ON COAST

Approximately 60,000 Acres in Hyde Destroyed in Raging Fire Saturday

A welcome deluge of rainfall Saturday evening and Sunday doused the last of an epidemic of forest fires which raged through the area last week.

A two-week dry spell resulted in what is known as a "blowup" condition, a condition in which stiff winds, unnatural dryness, and fair temperatures cause a state of imminent fire danger.

Although a great number of fires plagued forest servicemen and landowners in neighboring counties, perhaps the most disastrous of the blazes was near Forest Service headquarters at Fairfield, in Hyde County. In this fire, which began late Saturday, more than 95,000 acres burned through the night.

Of these, 60,000 acres were timber, and 30,000 were cleared land. District Forester Dane Roten said the rainfall extinguished the visible blaze, although the fire was still burning underground. He said he hoped to finish the subterranean portions Monday or Tuesday.

The rain, driven by a stiff northeaster, thoroughly soaked the banks in a short time. The Weather Bureau at Raleigh-Durham Airport reported that Hatteras Village received 5.6 inches between 7 P.M. Saturday and 1 P.M. Sunday.

## MASONS WILL ATTEND CHURCH IN A BODY

Members of Manteo Masonic Lodge No. 521 will attend church in a group at Mount Olivet Methodist Church in Manteo at 7:30 Sunday night, April 14. All Masons are invited to participate and will meet outside the church at 7:15.

## ANOTHER SEASHORE PARK IS PROPOSED FOR AREA SOUTH OF OCRACOE IS.

"Cape Lookout National Seashore" Proposed for Carteret County; Meeting Monday in Office of Congressman Bonner, Representatives of Park Commission, Carteret County and Rep. David Henderson Attend.

## TIME DRAWS SHORT FOR CANDIDATES IN DARE TOWNS' VOTE

Deadlines Vary in Three Municipalities; Few Candidates Have Filed

As the month of April passes, the time for candidates to file for municipal elections draws to a close. On Tuesday, however, only a handful of candidates have tossed their hats into the ring.

At Nags Head, where the election system recently underwent a change, only four persons have filed: W. A. Williams, Jr., Tom McKimney, Dewey L. Hayman, and Jess Newman. The deadline for filing for these offices is April 20th.

At Kill Devil Hills, the lack of names is more evident. Mrs. Ruth B. Frank has filed for Treasurer, and Theodore R. Wood has filed for Town Commissioner. The KDH deadline is April 19th.

In Manteo, only one name has been placed on the list of candidates. G. T. Westcott has entered his name for a new term as Mayor. None of the other Town Commissioners have refilled. The Manteo deadline, as set at a meeting of the Board Monday, is April 22nd.

## 22 REGISTER FOR VOTE IN NAGS HEAD MAY 7 ELECTION

New Registration Period Will Continue Through April 27th

C. Sherman Culpepper, Registrar for the Nags Head municipal election announced Wednesday that 22 voters had registered. The registration began April 6th, after a change was effected in the town's election procedure.

Previously, nonresident freeholders as well as residents were permitted to vote for the town officers, but following legislation which amended the town's charter, only residents are allowed to go to the polls.

The registration for the old balloting system began March 23rd, and during that week 34 voters registered, four of them nonresidents. After the amendment, however, those names were discarded, and the books were opened again April 6th.

Times for Nags Head registration are 9 A.M. to 9 P.M. each Saturday through April 27th. During the week the books will be open at Mr. Culpepper's home.

The books are not yet open for Manteo and Kill Devil Hills voters, but both municipalities will begin registration April 19th, continuing through April 26th.

## MRS. JOHN MCKIMMEY OF NAGS HEAD SUFFERS PAINFUL BURNS FRIDAY

Mrs. John A. McKimney of Nags Head suffered severe burns on her arms and legs as a result of a fire in her kitchen last Friday. According to reports, she was cleaning floors with gasoline when the pilot light on her range ignited the fluid.

Although burned on the arms and legs, Mrs. McKimney was able to smother the flames on her body with a blanket and run to her brother-in-law's (Tom McKimney) restaurant. The fire department was called, but Mr. McKimney and several others had extinguished the blaze by the time they arrived. No damage was done to the house other than scorched floors.

Mrs. McKimney was treated by Dr. W. W. Harvey, Jr. of Manteo, and confined to bed. At last report her injuries were healing rapidly, and she was able to leave her bed for brief spells.

Cornel L. With, Director of the National Park Service proposed Monday that a separate Seashore Park be set up on Portsmouth Island and Core Banks. The proposal is in Manteo, N. C., and Federal Committee office of Rep. Herbert C. Bonner, was met with approval by representatives of the N. C. Outer Bank Seashore Commission as well as concerned State and county officials.

According to With, the new park would be distinct from the existing 70-mile-long Cape Hatteras National Seashore, which extends through Ocracoke Island. It would be called "Cape Lookout National Seashore."

Attending the meeting were Woodrow Price, Chairman of the Seashore Park Commission; a number of other commissioners; Chairman W. R. Hamilton of the Carteret County Board of Commissioners, the county in which the addition would be made, and Rep. David Henderson, Congressman who represents Carteret.

Governor Terry Sanford and Secretary of Interior Stewart L. Udall both came for a short time, but left before the close of the meeting.

"I think we can work this thing out," Udall said, "I want you to know the enthusiasm we have for this project."

Gov. Sanford who supports the plan, stated that the "conversion stage" and that before anything could be done it would first have to meet the approval of concerned counties. It was agreed that the National Park Service will undertake a survey of Portsmouth Island Core and Shackleford Banks to decide on the exact boundaries of the park.

After boundaries are decided upon, hearings will be held in Carteret County for residents. Chairman Hamilton said he thought the plan's chances for acceptance were better after a survey had been made.

Although most of the land in question is owned by the State, some of it on Shackleford Banks is privately owned. Price said he thought that the land could stay in private hands while under the management of the Park Service. The land on Portsmouth and Core Banks is poor and eroded, almost uninhabitable.

Also under discussion was the land north of the Cape Hatteras Seashore, in Currituck County and part of Virginia. Gov. Sanford last summer proposed a 200 mile park, encompassing all of the Outer Banks. Price said the picture was not optimistic, "but hopeful."

Udall again explained his See PARK, Page Four

## STRIPED BASS FISHING GOOD IN CROATAN SOUND

Stormy weather last week end slowed up striped bass fishing only one day in Manns Harbor area.

Carl Mann reported good catches Saturday morning, but then the weather changed. Wind and rain hampered trolling activities on Sunday, but as the storm front moved seaward Sunday night the waters, still somewhat rough, were productive again on Monday — and every day since.

Bucktail lures have proven best for attracting the stripers and the fish caught have consistently ranged from five to six pounds.

Best catch of the week reported by Mann was made by Skipper Olds and his wife Mrs. Marie Olds of Great Bridge, Va. They trolled from the cruiser Rita for only two hours and landed 22 stripers going up to five pounds each.

The waters of Croatan and upper Pamlico Sound have been alive with striped bass for the past month. Most of the catches by anglers have been made in the vicinity of the William B. Umstead Bridge between Roanoke Island and Manns Harbor, but members of the crabbing fleet operating from Wanchese have caught fish, including striped bass daily.