

THE COASTLAND TIMES

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KILL DEVIL HILLS APPOINTS ELECTION OFFICIALS TUESDAY

Discuss Fishing on Beach, Surfing, But Delay Formal Action

Meeting Tuesday night, the Kill Devil Hills town board named officials for the forthcoming municipal election: Mrs. Jean P. Beacham, registrar; and Mrs. Vivian Wolford and Mrs. Nina Miller, judges. April 8 at 12 noon is deadline for calling for office, at the town hall.

Beautification

Mrs. Dorothy Bensley informed board members that the new Dunes of Dare Garden Club had agreed to a beautification project around the town hall as one of its goals this year. Along those lines, Bill Williams of Ulica, N. Y., formerly of Kitty Hawk, has donated \$25.

Commercial Fishing

A discussion on commercial fishing on the beach, its pros and cons, was held with particular respect to the tourist season. No action was taken, but Mayor Briggs is to join Mayor D. L. Hayman of Nags Head soon to discuss with Rep. Archie Burrus possible legislation which might be enacted to cope with resulting problems of litter, objections from tourists and business folks.

Sit Tight on Surfing

While the subject of surfing came up for discussion, the board's consensus was to "wait and see" what Nags Head might do about the problem. It is expected that a report will be submitted with recommendations to the Nags Head board within a few days.

OK Oregon Inlet Project

A resolution of approval was voted in the matter of deepening Oregon Inlet in connection with establishment of deep water ship channel leading through Pamlico Sound and up Pamlico River. Endorsement is being sought from municipalities and many other interested groups, chambers of commerce and the like, throughout northeastern North Carolina.

NIPPED IN BUD, SPRINGTIME WILL COME BACK SOON

Fishing Briefly Curtailed as Vessels Remain in Port; Near-Gale Winds

High winds Wednesday night and early Thursday nipped spring in the bud on the coast. Wind velocities reached gale or near gale force.

The weather shift also nipped spring sportfishing and also commercial fishing temporarily. Crabs remained in port as did other vessels including offshore trawlers.

First catches of surf fish being caught with rod and reel on Hatteras Island were received by Tourist Bureau Wednesday. The fish, sea mullet and spots, were caught in the Cape Hatteras area.

Earlier in the week, according to reports from Hatteras channel bass were caught in Pamlico Sound net, by commercial fishermen.

A Thursday morning report indicated that wind-blown tide waters covered a short stretch of N. C. 12 in the low-lying Avon sector on Hatteras Island.

Wind-blown sand was also a problem along the beach highways and Mrs. Dorita Ballance of Dare County Library had to cancel a bookmobile trip to Hatteras Island after getting stuck in the Pea Island Refuge area where loose sand piled high where contractors have been moving earth recently blew onto, and covered the road.

The change in weather followed several days of abnormally (for so early in March) warm weather.

DARE A.B.C. SALES IN FEBRUARY \$19,752

Total sales of the Dare County A.B.C. stores during the month of February were \$19,752.20. There was no remittance to the county general fund, inasmuch as the new accounting procedure allows transfer every three months.

In another matter before A. B.C. board members, they authorized Supervisor Robert H. Midgett to cooperate with the newly-established Currituck County A.B.C. board on bus' of the Dare County supervisor's experiences.

SUDDENLY IT IS SPRINGTIME



ON ROANOKE ISLAND, and especially in the Elizabethan Garden near Manteo, suddenly it is springtime. Proof of springlike weather that has taken the mercury into the 80s recently, is shown in this picture of Libby Creef surrounded by blossoming daffodils. Also in blossom at Elizabethan Garden are multi-hued camellias, carpets of pansies, and other bulb and plant flowers. More than 50 persons visited the garden last Sunday, and this week end, if there is not a weather setback, many times that number will visit the famous Elizabethan Garden. Not only are the flowers blossoming in Elizabethan Garden, but elsewhere on Roanoke Island in the yards of private homes between Fort Raleigh and Wanchese. (Aycock Brown photo)

DIVERGENT VIEW ON WORTH OF N.P.S. TO DARE COUNTY

Because of the widely differing views expressed in articles appearing in the Norfolk-Virginian Pilot relative to worthiness and effect of the National Park Service to Dare County, we are publishing in columns below, left, the excerpts from a study conducted by Dr. Ernest Swanson, as published Monday. On right is reprint of an article quoting Dr. W. W. Harvey with certain views on the matter, as published Tuesday.

By JOHN I. BROOKS
Monday, March 13
WASHINGTON. — Tourism in general, and the Cape Hatteras National Seashore in particular, represent the only promising source of increasing income in Dare County. This is the main conclusion of a study of the county's resources conducted for the National Park Service by Dr. Ernest Swanson, head of the economics department at North Carolina State College in Raleigh.

"With the exception of the recreational value of the Outer Banks and sounds, Dare County is poor in natural resources. No valuable minerals have been found. Agriculture is nonexistent and the mainland forests are among the least productive in the state," according to a summary of Swanson's study issued by Park Service.

In 1965, the tourist industry accounted for \$9,155,000 of the county's basic income. This was 57.5 per cent of the \$16,262,000 gathered from all sources by the county.

Income from the federal and state governments represented 30 per cent of the county's income. See N. P. S., Page Five

STUMPY POINT PUBLIC WHARF IS BEING BUILT

Construction on the public dock at Stumpy Point this week was reported at a standstill, the contractor awaiting the supply of more materials, by Dare County. The contract, between E. R. Boney of Plymouth Construction Co. and the county, provided that when he completed driving piles, staying-up and cutting off to project level, that he then move out heavy floating equipment used on the job. It was further understood that it would require some four weeks from contract date of February 10 before necessary crosote lumber could be delivered.

Boney's contract with Dare County is for \$4,200, of which \$2100 was paid on March 2 following inspection by Chairman W. S. White of the board of commissioners.

Balance will be due when the wharf, 101.5 feet by 12 feet, is completed.

(Tuesday, March 14)
The vice chairman of the Dare County Board of Commissioners Monday sharply disagreed with a report on the coastal county's prospective income sources which was released Tuesday in Washington.

Dr. W. W. Harvey said the report was released by George B. Hartzog, Jr., director of the National Park Service, to "white-wash" the truth.

"If we had to depend on the park service, we'd dry up and blow away," Harvey said.

In a crustic rebuttal, Harvey said the National Park Service was "trying to make itself look good." He said Dr. Ernest Swanson, who made the survey, See HARVEY, Page Five

DISASTER AVERTED AS BOMB IS TOWED 58 MILES OFFSHORE

A near-disaster was averted Wednesday when the fishing trawler Crisway dumped a stray bomb into 480 fathoms of water off the North Carolina-Virginia coast. The 500-pound bomb had been picked up in the vessel's nets Tuesday, and the crew spent a jittery 30 hours between the catch and release.

When snagged, the Crisway was fishing in water some 40 miles east of Cape Hatteras.

The Navy had initially planned to defuse the grey, yellow-striped device with a close inspection showed it was in "highly dangerous condition" and the Crisway was asked to tow it to deep water and cut it loose. The point where released was about 58 miles offshore, and the drop was supervised by Navy explosives experts. Part of the net was lost in the drop.

Demolition experts said the bomb was armed, double-fused and in a hair-trigger state due to a strong impact apparently when it was dropped from a plane.

The release was made in the area where the trawler Snoopy was blown to bits in July 1965 by a torpedo caught in its nets. Eight men were killed in the explosion.

No time was lost in calling for help Tuesday, inasmuch as many of the Crisway's crew members had been in the area when the Snoopy was blown to bits.

SHAD PLENTIFUL BUT PRICE DOWN TO NEAR NAUGHT

Mainland Fishermen Report Fat Fish, Good Roe But No Market

Fishermen on the mainland who were off to a good season with shad prices this week found themselves with little or no market. When the season started, prices opened on quality roe shad at around thirty-five cents per pound, net to fishermen.

But this week, shad are lying in fish houses awaiting an open market, which might bring 10 cents per pound to fishermen. Buck shad were reported selling for crab bait at two cents per pound in mid-week.

Catches in Virginia and other points, as in North Carolina, have been unusually good, and reports are that major markets of Philadelphia, New York and Baltimore have been glutted.

A similar situation exists with hard crabs, a glutted market and five cents per pound paid to crabbers when marketable. At best this winter, crabs have brought seven cents per pound.

RIGHT GIRL, WRONG PICTURE CORRECTED



MISS MARGIE PETERSON, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Peterson of Kill Devil Hills, was recently appointed to represent three counties at East Carolina College, Greenville. Somewhere along the line, college officials apparently mailed to this newspaper a photograph of someone else, tagged with Miss Peterson's name, which was duly published with the story. Her mother has sent a picture to correct the error.

DARE JAYCEES TO SPONSOR DANCE SATURDAY NIGHT

The newly-organized Dare County Jaycees are already backing another event—that being a "St. Patrick's Dance" at Nags Head Saturday night. It will be held at the Carolina Hotel with music provided by the Jordanaires from 9 until 1. Admission is \$2 per person, and the public is invited to attend the fund-raising function.

Among other projects for which the Jaycees are working is the raising of \$450 to supplement a football coach's salary for Manteo High School, request having recently been made by Dare County Board of Education.

Next week the Jaycees are co-sponsoring a beauty pageant at Manteo High School, again a Saturday night affair, and which has drawn some 17 contestants thus far. More on this will be published, including photos, in next week's issue.

SEVENTY-FIVE ATTEND OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY, NAGS HEAD CHAMBER

Last Sunday afternoon's showing of the new chamber of commerce office at Nags Head drew approximately 75 visitors, mostly chamber members from the beaches and Roanoke Island. Additionally, there were a few tourists who stopped for information that afternoon.

Mrs. Winifred Barbrey, recently employed as chamber secretary, stated this week that visitation during the week has been averaging about five drop-in calls daily, and ten each day on week ends. Besides the personal calls from tourists, inquiries have come by telephone from New York, New Jersey, Philadelphia and other points.

ANTHONY STARK, NPS CHIEF RANGER RECEIVES WEATHER OBSERVATION AWARD FROM SHERWOOD L. JONES, USWB



The United States Weather Bureau presented to National Park Service an institutional award in recognition of more than 25 years of weather observations in cooperation with the U. S. Weather Bureau at Wright Brothers National Memorial on Friday.

Sherwood L. Jones, field representative of the Raleigh bureau made the presentation to Chief Ranger Anthony Stark of the NPS installations of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore.

In presenting the award, Jones said, "Our knowledge of the climate of North Carolina and the nation is solidly built upon records maintained here on the Dare Coast and other cooperative observers of the 50 States.

Since the acceptance of this program at the Wright Brothers National Memorial originally the NPS has extended its cooperative program of the weather bureau to include climatological stations at Ocracoke, Bodie Island and Fort Raleigh National Historic Site.

"In addition, they have a cooperative reporting hurricane network station at Bodie Island and Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, and a storm warning display station at Oregon Inlet Marina in cooperation with the Norfolk Weather Bureau office," said Jones.

During periods of storm activity, watch stations are manned on a 24-hour basis and during the tourist season peak small boat operators working out of Oregon Inlet are provided current, up-to-date storm warnings by means of the display maintained by the NPS at that location, Jones stated.

LOWER TOLLS ON CEDAR I. O'COKE FERRY SOUGHT

Carteret Representative Says Tolls Retarding Outer Banks' Development

Legislation to reduce toll charges for the Cedar Island-Ocracoke ferry was introduced last Friday in the General Assembly.

Rep. Nelson Taylor of Carteret, who filed the measure in the House, said the present rates are "prohibitive" and are "retarding the development of the Outer Banks and the whole eastern part of Carteret County."

Toll charges now are \$450 for each automobile; \$250 for each passenger over 12 years of age and \$125 for each passenger under 12 years of age.

Taylor's bill would reduce the tolls to \$250 for each car or pick-up truck, including the driver and all passengers; \$250 for trailers less than 20 feet in length; \$5 for trailers over 20 feet long; \$1 for pedestrians or cyclists over 11 years of age, and 50 cents for those under 12.

"If a tourist comes down the Outer Banks to Ocracoke, regardless of the toll he's got to take the ferry," Taylor said, "it's 300 miles around and he's got to go on land a day of vacation. They get bitter and I don't blame them."

Operating costs of the ferry totaled \$458,864 last year. Tolls collected amounted to \$155,744. State highway funds made up the difference.

Ivan Hardesty, assistant chief engineer of the highway department, told a reporter that, "if the tolls are lowered or done away with completely, as some people are advocating . . . the natives would ride for joy rides and the tourists won't even have a chance to get on the ferry."

"They're thinking about lowering the toll charges to help the tourists and in my opinion it will do the reverse."

WHITE DOING WELL; HOME NEXT WEEK

W. S. White, chairman of the Dare County Commissioners, who was hospitalized following a heart seizure during a board meeting Tuesday of last week, was reported in good condition Thursday morning by Mrs. White.

He is expected to be released from Allmarie Hospital next Wednesday for further recuperation at his home in Manns Harbor.

PRINCIPALS AT GUIDES ASSOCIATION MEET



ACTING SUPERINTENDENT TOM MORSE of the National Park Service, and Capt. Chick Craddock, skipper of the cruiser Lollipop and currently president of the Oregon Inlet Guides Association, are shown in the courthouse Tuesday night prior to a meeting of the group. There was considerable discussion by more than half of the 34 skippers at Oregon Inlet about the new rates that will be charged parties fishing inshore and in the Gulf Stream.

Previously the rates for Oregon Inlet Fishing Center, a NPS concession, had been approved by the National Park Service for an increase to \$125 daily for parties up to six by the day, and \$75 and \$50 for whole and half days inshore for parties up to six.

There seemed to be a feeling among the majority of skippers that the new rates would mean that a skipper would have to take a total of six persons per trip, with no alternative. Thus, motions were made and passed, requesting that the rate structure be \$115 for total of five, plus \$10 for the sixth person, if there should be six in party; and likewise that the rates be \$45 and \$70 for half or full day trips, but only for parties up to five, with privilege of charging an additional \$5 making the total \$50 and \$75 for parties of six.

Superintendent Morse stated that he would present their request to the National Park Service for consideration, and presumably approval.

President Craddock heard pro and con discussions relative to a proposed fishing tournament as presented by last year's manager, M. D. Davis. Some thought instead of a short grade.

See GUIDES, Page Five

BOARD REQUESTS NAMING MEMBERS DIFFERENT WAY

Other Legislation to Be Sought Includes Junked Vehicles, Dragline

Discussed by Dare County Commissioners with Rep. Archie Burrus last week were several possible legislative matters, including one dealing with appointments to its own board.

Presently vacancies on the board are filled through appointment by Clerk of Court Chauncey S. Meekins. The board, in requesting Rep. Burrus' aid in the legislation, advised that since the clerk's office was now under the state system that the office was not now in such close affiliation as had been the case previously.

The board was unanimous in its request which would permit appointment by the Democratic Executive Committee, with stipulation that such appointments be made within thirty days of vacancy occurrences.

Dragline Acquisition

Burrus was also requested to investigate the possibility of the county's acquisition of a dragline through a state grant for use in the mosquito control program. Such equipment would, it was suggested, be eligible for operating fund reimbursement of up to 70% from state sources.

Junkpiles

Investigation was also requested of Burrus regarding the regulation of junkpiles, automobiles and other debris, to which the representative advised that he would give attention.

Sales Tax

Also discussed was the proposed 1% sales tax which would be levied upon all products bought in the county. The feeling was that, if the tax be levied that it should be on state-wide basis rather than county option.

OBRA BIDDERS MAY BID ANY OR ALL PHASES

Oneto Calls Attention to Information Which Should Interest Contractors

Many contractors, local and otherwise, who are interested in entering into the construction of Outer Banks Recreation Association's golf course and related facilities at Kitty Hawk should be pleased with the fact that they may bid on any phase of the 12-point project. That information was assured this week by Julian Oneto, of Nags Head, President of the sponsoring organization.

"At a meeting of OBRA directors Tuesday Night," said Oneto, "there seemed to be the feeling that many contractors were confused as to what course they must take. We want all interested parties to bid on any or all phases of the work. We will accept all proposals and select what we feel will best meet our requirements."

He listed the various project categories as follows:

1. Clubhouse and pro shop;
2. Pool;
3. Irrigation;
4. Grubbing and clearing;
5. Excavation (canals);
6. Grading;
7. Grassing;
8. Maintenance building;
9. Tennis courts;
10. Electrical;
11. Plumbing;
12. Cart shed.

Complete plans and specifications are available from Ellis Maples and Associates, White Pines, N. C., the architectural firm engaged by OBRA. Cost is \$40 per set, refundable to unsuccessful bidders on return of the plans, and all interested parties should request plans before March 24.

Bids will be accepted until 3 p.m. March 31, and should be addressed to Julian Oneto, the President, Nags Head; or David Stick, secretary, Kitty Hawk.

EDISON MIDGETT RETIRES; MOVES BACK TO MANTEO

Edison Midgett has retired from the U. S. Coast Guard, as Master Chief Boatswain's Mate, after 21 years service. He and his wife and their five children, Annette, Ramona, Gary, Amy and Kenneth, have moved back to Manteo, their former home, from Washington, N. C., where they have been living. Chief Midgett is the son of Mrs. Louisa Midgett of Manteo and the late Thomas B. Midgett.

BEST SPELLER NAMED IN MANTEO ELEMENTARY



WYNNE DOUGH, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wynne Dough of Manteo, and a sixth grade student in Manteo Elementary School, won the local spelling bee and will be Manteo's representative in the district contest in Norfolk, Va., on May 6. The champion speller from each school will go to Old Dominion College to compete in the event sponsored by the Norfolk Ledger-Star.

Wynne Dough is a student in Mrs. W. S. Meekins' sixth grade. The alternate is Timothy Creef, in Mrs. W. L. Warren's sixth grade.