

**SAVING LIVES HIS JOB** — Paul Hurt is shown as he ascends the steps of the life guard tower at Pompano Beach. A city employe, Hurt has been on duty for about a month.



(Daily News photo by Ray Ward)

## RESUSCITATOR IS GOOD INVESTMENT

... Lifeguards Paul Hurt, Cecil Miller demonstrate on "patient" Jean Nunnink

*Proved To Be Good Investment*

# 5 Lives Saved By Resuscitator

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# Boy's Death Brings Plea For Safety

## **POMPANO BEACH —**

Grieving Sanders Park Negro homeowners today pleaded for the county to force the unidentified owner of a sprawling sandpit, located "a stone's throw" outside the city limits, to fence in the deadly waterhole following the tragic drowning there yesterday of a 4-year-old Negro boy.

Kenneth Knight, one of five sons of Mr. and Mrs. Obie Knight Sr., of 591 NW 16th Lane, died shortly before noon when he tumbled into the deep water while playing with his five-year-old brother.

Chief lifeguard Paul Hurt and guard Carl Merton rushed to the scene in the Beach Patrol jeep and dove approximately 15 minutes before Hurt finally found the limp body of the little boy at the bottom of the deep excavation.

Hurt, assisted by Fireman John Waby and Fire Capt. Frank Helton, worked feverishly over the boy for some 20 minutes before rushing him to Holy Cross Hospital where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

It could not be accurately determined just how long the youngster was submerged, rescuers said, since considerable time elapsed between the moment he tumbled into the water and when the alarm was flashed.

Tom Dudley, 42-year-old cook, who has no children, told The News, "Lord, how many more have to die before something is done," while Mrs. Evladell Byrd, another neighbor remarked, "It just as easily could have been my little boy."

—Jim Daly

# Lifeguard Paul Hurt Boasts A Perfect Safety Record

By PETER LAINO  
Herald Staff Writer

**POMPANO BEACH** — When lifeguard Paul Hurt was first appointed in November 1949, to be responsible for the safety of swimmers here, the city owned only some 100 feet of the beach.

During the years that have seen his protection extend 12 times that area, Hurt has maintained a perfect safety record while handling more than 50 "swimming rescues." He doesn't count the others which involved wading in waist-deep and hauling people out.

None of the distressed swimmers have even lapsed into unconsciousness when brought back to the shore, so quickly were they pulled out. Hurt, who regards his job as primarily preventive, says that limits for swimming are set so that a rescue attempt can be completed before the subject has time to get in a critical condition.

"Assuming a swimmer is at the maximum safety distance 100 yards down the beach, 100 feet out and in 10 feet of water," Hurt explained, "we would be able to start artificial respiration within five minutes, which is estimated to give him an even chance."

"Endurance is of more importance than speed to a lifeguard, especially in dealing with struggling swimmers who can pull both rescuer and rescuer under. Bodily contact has to be avoided. By using special holds or grips the guard can obtain complete control of the situation despite any wild flailing of limbs."

Hurt has never found it necessary to use force. In the surf he uses a torpedo-float and a surf-board, which he was thankful for on one occasion when he had to bring in a mother and son together.

A native Miamian, Hurt learned swimming through the YMCA summer programs there. Living on a river, he was also able to swim in the canals and rock-pits. During the war, he was an army medic and used to assist patients in swimming therapy.

A lifeguard has to be a first-aid expert, too, and a two-week course at the Red Cross Aquatic School in Brevard, N. C., helped him master this side of his job.



**PAUL HURT**, chief lifeguard at Pompano Beach, scans the bathing scene from one of the recently-constructed bath-houses. There have been no fatalities during the six years of his supervision.

On hand at the beach is an Emerson resuscitator, the best of three available in the city. Once a rescue is made, a state of shock has usually set in and the guard has to know how to deal with this, too, if medical assistance has not yet arrived.

Part of Hurt's job is to test the strength and direction of the currents each day and to post signs accordingly.

"There are always a few stubborn customers," he said. "Who will insist on swimming beyond the prescribed and their own limits. They prove a menace

to everyone else and, when they don't adopt a more reasonable outlook, should be kept off the beach."

Hurt has to keep his eyes constantly peeled for youngsters. Adults in trouble will at least let out a yell, he explained, whereas kids usually don't realize that they are getting themselves into danger.

"Always swim in a guarded area," he warns, "and for your own sake, obey the instructions that are posted."

# Fishermen Saved After Boat Upsets

**POMPANO BEACH** — Three Negro fishermen were pulled ashore yesterday by **Paul Hurt**, city lifeguard, and a nearby workman when their small boat capsized several hundred feet off shore.

Police identified them as Edward Travis, NW Ninth Ave.; Robert Goss, NW Sixth St., and Willie J. Johnson, N.W. 10th Ave.

They were sitting in their anchored boat when a wave apparently overturned it.

Hearing their cries for help, **Bill Smith**, a construction worker, commandeered a small rowboat on the beach and pulled one man ashore.

By that time **Hurt** arrived on the scene and was successful in pulling in the two other men.

Police said the boat the Negroes used was too small for ocean fishing and that if a boat had not been available to the rescuers the mishap could have resulted fatally.

**Proved To Be Good Investment**

# 5 Lives Saved By Resuscitator

**POMPANO BEACH**—An expenditure of \$500 has turned out to be a valuable investment for the city of Pompano Beach.

Its dividends: Five lives. In 1949, city workers raised the money to buy a portable resuscitator for use at the municipal beach. Since then, the machine and lifeguards have been accredited with saving at least five lives and helping a great many other people.

The apparatus, which weighs 80 pounds, is equipped with dual controls to allow two people to be treated at the same time. It also has a 50 foot extension hose for use on victims in places inaccessible to rescue workers.

The resuscitator is manned by Paul Hurt and Cecil Miller, municipal beach lifeguards. Other municipal employes, including members of the police and fire departments, have been trained to operate the machine.

The breathing apparatus operates automatically regulated by the pressure of oxygen in the tanks. It is used on victims of heart attacks, drownings, electrocution, asthma and suffocation.

Lifeguards Hurt and Miller were called out on a particular case several years ago where a young boy had collapsed, with what doctors thought was a lung ailment and had been pronounced dead. Hurt and Miller worked on the boy for over five hours and literally "brought him back to life."

Both lifeguards have been thoroughly trained in life saving and first aid. Hurt attended two

surgical technicians schools while in the Army. He took courses at Madigan General Hospital, Ft. Louis, Washington, and Fitzsimons General Hospital in Denver, Colorado.

He also is a graduate of the American Red Cross, National Aquatic School, Camp Carolina, Brevard, North Carolina.

Miller is a graduate of the American Red Cross, First Aid training school and the Senior Lifeguard School.

Both lifeguards have been at their posts for over six years.

Hurt and Miller have praised members of the Pompano Beach police and fire departments for their co-operation and co-or-

which runs from the playground area, past the swimming pool and north to the club house of the country club.

A map was presented to the commission this week, but D. Beltrand apologized for the fact that he had run out of tact with which to pinpoint precise lights and spots where lights are needed. A complete report of lighting needs, he said, will be drawn up.

coordination of efforts in saving lives.


## WELL TRAINED

Hurt said they have the highest trained men and the best equipment and the only thing that defeats them in the race with death is the time element.

Hurt said that anyone needing the services of the resuscitator should call the Pompano Beach Police Dept. "They have a car cruising on the beach at all times which can pick up the victim and rush it to where it's needed."

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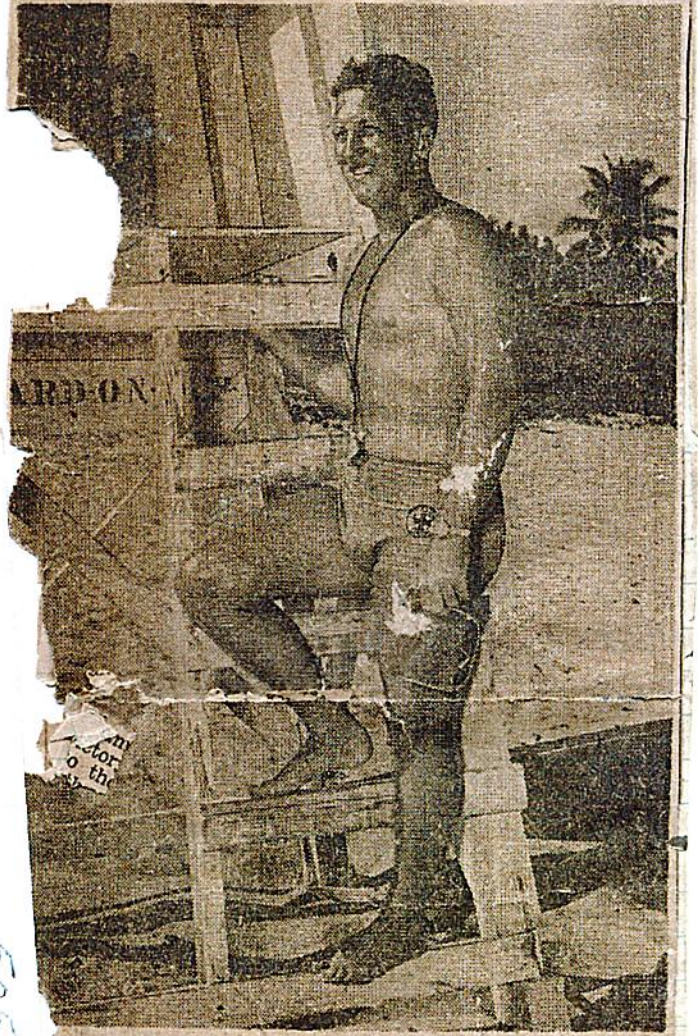




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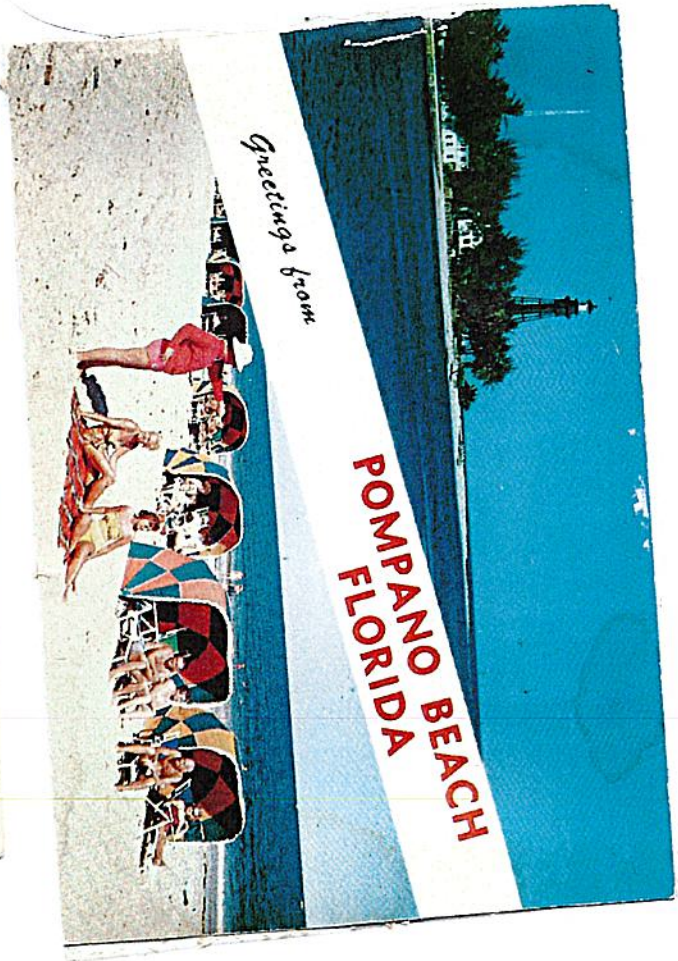


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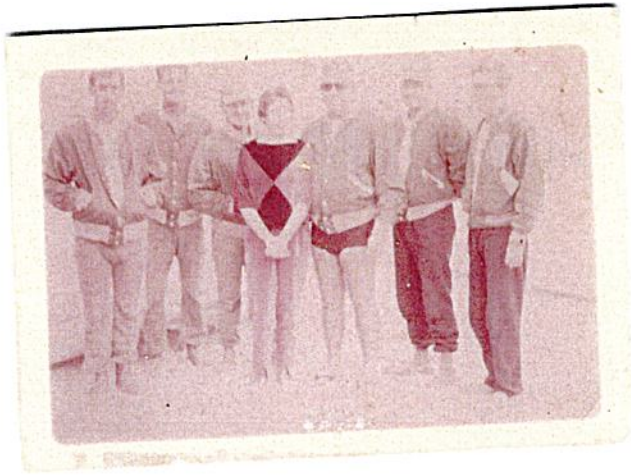


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(News photo by Jim Daly)

**MYSTERY IN HAND**—Chief lifeguard Paul Hurt, of Pompano Beach, yesterday found a blackened ancient coin (which closely resembles in size a present-day dime). Believed to be of Spanish origin the old coin carries inscription Cariluis 111, Dei Gratia—Charles 111 by Grace of God—1741. Hurt invited area rare coin collectors to help him establish positive identification of the paper-thin discovery's denomination.

# *Divers Explore 'Living Legend'*

**POMPANO BEACH**—The mystery of the "living legend" is deepening—or perhaps coming to light—as divers are getting to the heart of an old wreck in the Hillsboro Inlet area.

Dockmaster Dwight Miller reports that divers have now reached the bottom of the ship in some places and they aer on the second deck in other spots.

Yesterday marked the first clue that might lead to the identification of the wreck that was theorized to have been sent to the bottom during a storm before the turn of the century.

Coins or imprints of coins have been found with partial lettering indicating French currency. One coin imprint found and cleaned yesterday clearly shows the letters "franc" with the last letter broken off at the letter "C". Onlookers assumed that the last letter would have been "E".

Miller pointed out that because the coins are French doesn't necessarily mean that the ship was French.

Five **cannons** from the ship are now on the inlet dock. Two of the **cannons** are 7½-feet long and are assumed to have been long-range **cannons**. The other three **cannons** are smaller and thicker.

Some lead shot and more cannonballs weighing 37 pounds also have been found.

Rock brought up from the wreck containing a large amount of copper, is alien to natural rock found in Florida.

Miller and his pals are of the opinion there is something of much more value still left in the wreck. Work steadily goes on.