

SOUNDSIDE LEARNING

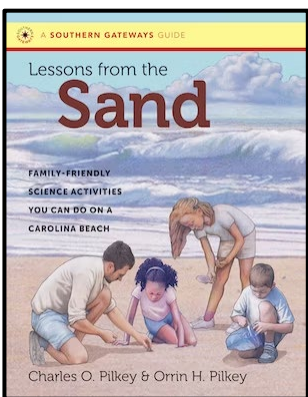
THIS WEEK ON CORE SOUND



COMING UP AT CORE SOUND...

- **Currently – December 31:**
Gallery of Trees
- **December 9:** Santa
Saturday @ 4 – 7 PM

Sound Reading Material For You and Your Child



Lessons from the Sand

By Charles & Orrin Pilkey

This is a favorite of many marine and environmental science teachers and a must for homeschool. Each of the nine units focus on a science topic (sand, waves, shells, etc.) by providing easy to understand science knowledge and several activities that can be done at home or on the beach. This book contains great pictures and a glossary. This is a must for everyone's bookshelf.

Book Recommendation from Catherine Norris, our Education Programs Coordinator

Pages: 240
Grades: K+

The Draw is Closing

Russell Lewis began working with the NCDOT as the Harkers Island bridge operator in 2000. In 2012 the job was contracted out, but after a few years he started working with the contractor. Russell will soon become known as the last bridge tender for the Island.

While working with the NCDOT, Russell opened the draw bridge for boat traffic and greased all the moving parts underneath it. He monitored the VHF radio for boats wanting to pass through the draw and the Harkers Island Fire and Rescue radio for emergencies on the Island. If an emergency occurred, Russell could keep car traffic moving so emergency vehicles would not be stopped. The rescue radio is no longer monitored, but if notification of an emergency is received traffic may still be controlled across the bridge.

It is a big responsibility operating the draw bridge. Russell has to turn the stop lights on in a timely manner, make sure he doesn't drop the gates on cars, and, while running the draw bridge equipment, he must avoid damaging it, the passing boats, and even people.

Russell shared, "There was a time that I turned the stop lights on and put the first gates down with the lights blinking and noticed a car coming on the Island that didn't slow down and ran through the gate and broke it off. I filed a report to the State and called the highway patrol. The patrolman went looking for the damaged car. While looking, there was a car doing doughnuts in the road. The patrolman waited until the car had stopped and asked the guy if he was through, he said yes. *continued on page 2*



Russell Lewis

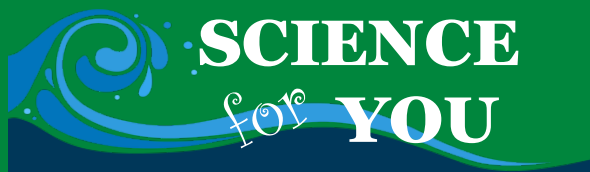
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Then he asked if he was the one that ran through the bridge gate. The man told him it wasn't him, but his father did it and had parked his car behind their house. Needless to say, they both got tickets."

When Russell started working at the bridge, there were many boats going through that kept him busy. Now there are less boats and fishermen needed to pass; he helps fill his time with his camera and takes many pictures every day. He has taken as many as 2000 pictures in one day. He posts his images on Facebook for others to enjoy. When asked what he will miss most about his job, Russell responded, "This has the most beautiful scenery, boats, people, vehicles, fish, and construction. The friends I've made, the people I've met, and the followers I have on Facebook have been a joy in my life. I'm going to miss all this when I leave. I feel bad about the people that enjoyed looking at and posing for me to take their pictures, waving and smiling. They looked forward to seeing me here with the anticipation and joy of getting their photo taken by me. I'm really going to miss that."



photos by Russell Lewis



Popsicle Stick Bridge Challenge

This bridge building challenge is a great introduction to STEM challenges. You only need popsicle sticks and rubber bands. The challenge is to build a bridge that can hold weight. To test these bridges, set the popsicle stick bridge across two chairs, and then apply weight.

