

Town Crier Is Selected

Bob Landry was in Waterbury Connecticut two weeks ago when he picked up a copy of The Waterbury Republican.

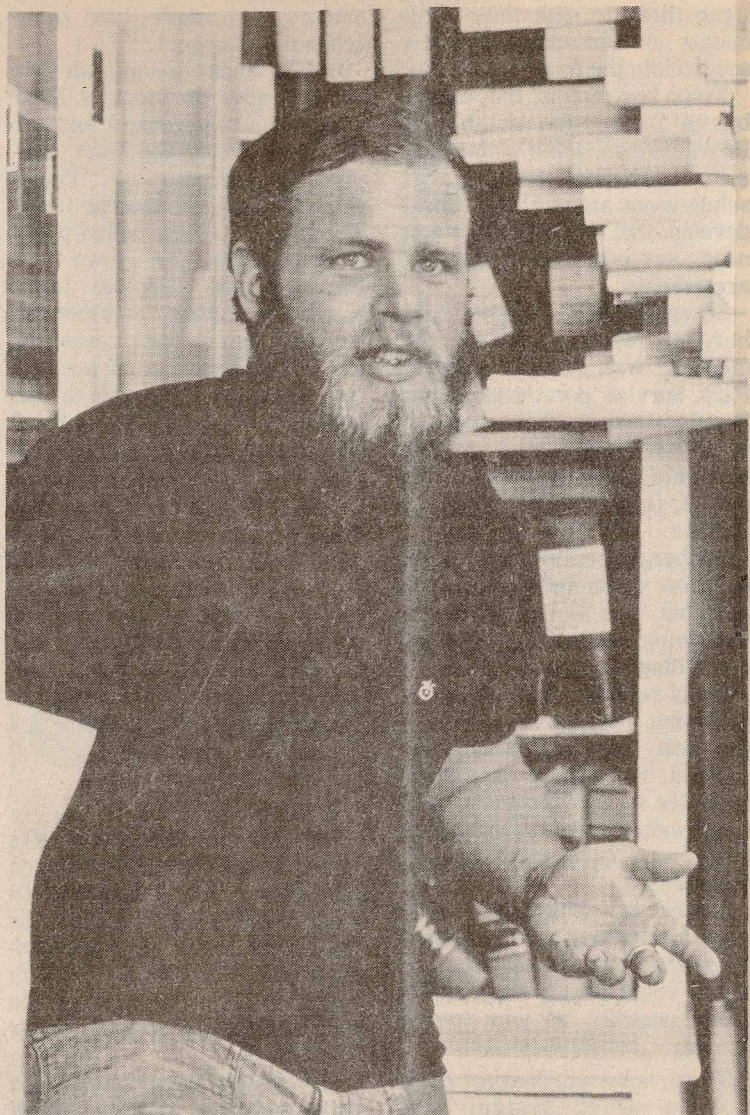
A small filler item from United Press International at the bottom of one of the columns of the paper said that the recently-hired and much-publicized Town Crier in Provincetown had already retired.

Bob Landry, who had previously been a summer resident of Provincetown, was one of those who had originally applied for the job of Town Crier when news reports of the availability of the job were spread around the world.

After he read that the job had again become open, he contacted Town Manager Michael Botelho. He was one of only a few of the original applicants to reapply for the job.

And this week Botelho hired 22-year-old Landry to take the job for the remaining six weeks of the summer. Landry may be the youngest person ever to hold the job. But no one keeps readily available statistics on such matters.

He will be a junior at the University of Connecticut in Storrs starting this fall.



Provincetown's new Town Crier Bob Landry.

OBITUARIES

Fred Baldwin

Provincetown's indomitable Town Crier, Fred Baldwin, died last Friday at the age of 89, in Bradenton, Florida.

Born in Dennis to a family of Mayflower descendants, he was known all over the Cape as the "Old Salt." Mr. Baldwin devoted many years of his life to promoting Cape Cod, its history, its attributes, its people. During his last visit to Provincetown in September, Mr. Baldwin, dressed splendidly in a gold costume, rang his bell through Town, exhorting the Townfolk to support the Bicentennial.

Appointed Provincetown Town Crier in 1968, Mr. Baldwin actively represented the Town during the 350th anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims, with appearances in Plymouth and on local radio programs. Often he would be found in front of Town Hall, with lollipops in his pocket for the children, and surrounded by tourists and local citizens. The "Old Salt" was always an enthusiastic fount of knowledge about the Town and its history. Each summer, Fred Baldwin opened the Playhouse season with his bell, and often appeared on Fourth of July floats.



Fred Baldwin

The Kentucky Colonel, Honorary Deputy Sheriff for Barnstable County, and Honorary Town Crier of Provincetown, lived in Bradenton, Florida, since 1963. Mr. Baldwin enjoyed bestowing Town officials with honorary memberships to his "Admiral Club."

Mr. Baldwin retired his post as Town Crier at the end of the 1970 season, and Michael Botelho, then Town Manager, said his biggest problem was finding a replacement. His term as Town Crier has been artistically recorded in a mural at the Provincetown Inn, which depicts the succession of five Town Criers over the years.

He graduated from Dartmouth College in 1907, studied at Harvard, and during his lifetime was an educator, lecturer, and genealogist.

Mr. Baldwin was a member of the Masons and Shriners, the Wildlife Conservation corporation, the International Game Fish Association, and president of several organizations, including the Harwich Chamber of Commerce, Cape Cod Anglers, Inc., Cape Cod Fish and Game Association, and the New England Club of Florida. Most recently he was appointed Honorary Barnstable Town Crier, and participated in ceremonies last September 28 at the "Body of People March" in Barnstable Village.

Undaunted by age, Fred Baldwin's last act before departing from Provincetown for his winter home, was to file an application with Town Manager Gardner Benson, to be Provincetown's Town Crier next season.