

# Holden Beach Study Indicates Groundwater Contamination Problem

BY ETTA SMITH

A preliminary groundwater study at Holden Beach has revealed the presence of high levels of bacteria in some areas—which could be a health hazard to swimmers or eventually affect shellfishing in the canals.

Dan Latta of McKim and Creed Associates engineering firm in Wilmington, told the Planning and Zoning Board last Thursday that some of the testing wells placed in various areas on the beach showed high counts of coliform, a bacteria associated with septic tank leaching fields.

"Fortunately, the island doesn't depend on wells for drinking water, but it (contamination) could be a concern as far as swimming and shellfishing," Latta told the board and Haskell Rhett, a grants administrator with the Coastal Management Division of the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development.

McKim and Creed was hired last

year by the town to do the study, which is being financed by a \$6,000 coastal management grant and matching town funds. According to Town Administrator Bob Buck, the study was initiated to determine the degree of any threat that groundwater contamination from septic tanks may have on public health.

Latta said 14 testing wells were placed in 20 locations on the beach. These sites include canal areas, where he said a higher count is expected, and both underdeveloped and highly developed areas off the canals.

According to Latta, one test well placed near a low population density area at the west end of the island showed a surprisingly high reading, as did wells placed on Sailfish Drive and Durham Street. Both Sailfish and Durham are on canals.

Latta said that more tests would be conducted to determine the consistency of the readings and how the

seasonal increase in population will affect the groundwater.

He added that the study will be completed by Aug. 31, and if the completed study shows the need, recommendations or solutions to the problem will be addressed.

### Defers Action

The board deferred action on drafting an ordinance that would regulate construction on marsh-front lots of less than 5,000 square-feet, and determine the setbacks to be required on these lots, until its next meeting.

The proposed ordinance has been discussed by both the planning and zoning board and town commissioners, because of a situation where lots on Windjammer Drive were re-subdivided to include marshland as part of the setback requirements for construction of a house there.

Because the setback area includes marshland, the former owner of the property recently appealed the town's issuance of a building permit

to the present property owner.

Board member Jim Griffin said the issue needs to be studied from the standpoint of whether the town wants to protect the marsh areas or to allow the development and density of marsh-front lots.

He added that it was his understanding that the property on Windjammer Drive was located in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers "404 line," which is a transitional area from the marsh to the high-ground line, and suitable for construction by Corps standards.

Buck said, "This whole problem is a result of the situation on Windjammer, and it's going to come up every time someone comes in to apply for a permit to build on a marsh-front lot."

He added that he had drafted the proposed ordinance, which deals with marsh-front lots which are already platted. The town's subdivision ordinance already prohibits building on marsh, said Buck, but the

issue being debated concerns lots that are already platted and "which contain marsh at the time somebody comes to obtain a building permit."

Although action was deferred on the draft ordinance, the majority of board members did agree that any draft ordinance should require that present yard requirements be met, and building should be permitted on lots with less than 5,000 square-feet above the Corps 404 line, provided other criteria are met.

They did not reach agreement on whether a lot should support its own septic tank and drain field and the distance that pilings should be placed back from the 404 line.

The board also received letters from residents John Clarke and Susan and Earl Kendrick. The letters ask that marsh land not be included in land that is used for determining the square footage of a lot.

### Other Business

In other business board members: •Deferred action on a commissioners' request to consider an amendment to the zoning regulations allowing placement of heating and air conditioning units on side, front, or rear-yard setbacks, independent of the basic structure.

•Amended the town ordinance that deals with canal lots with less than 5,000 square feet to include canal lots where the side yard also faces a canal. The amendment requires that pilings on the side yard that faces a canal can be placed no closer than six feet to the bulkhead.

•Appointed absent board members Gil Bass and Charlotte Nolte to a committee that will study and recommend to commissioners a list of types of business operations acceptable for location in the town. The subject became an issue recently when a gun shop was opened on the island.

## Oyster Festival Shirts On Sale

T-shirts and sweatshirts promoting the 1987 N.C. Oyster Festival will be available Friday for purchase at United Carolina Bank's main branch in Shallotte.

They can also be ordered by phoning the Shallotte UCB main branch a day in advance and picked up at branches in Ocean Isle Beach, Calabash or Holden Beach.

Adult sweatshirts sell for \$13, adult t-shirts for \$8, with extra-large sizes one additional dollar. Both come in white, gray and several pastel shades.

Children's shirts will be available at a later date.

The design this year depicts an oyster on a scallop-shell throne with a scroll proclaiming the South Brunswick Islands "Home of the National Oyster Shucking Champion."

National champion, Cathy Carlisle of Boone's Neck, leaves September 24 for the international competition in Galway, Ireland.

Shirts will also be available in limited quantities at the South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce office, temporarily in Suite 5 of Promenade Office Park.

## State Seeks To Have Juvenile Case Heard In Superior Court

BY ETTA SMITH

A Brunswick County Assistant District Attorney said Tuesday the state is seeking to have the case of a juvenile who rammed his truck into an apartment last month heard in Superior Court.

Napoleon Barefoot, Jr. said whether or not the case will be heard in the May 18 Superior Court session depends on if the youth is bound over. He would not say if the youth would be tried as an adult.

The 15-year-old drove a truck through a Leland apartment on March 24, killing William Guy Bondurant II, 21, of Wilmington. The apartment belongs to brothers

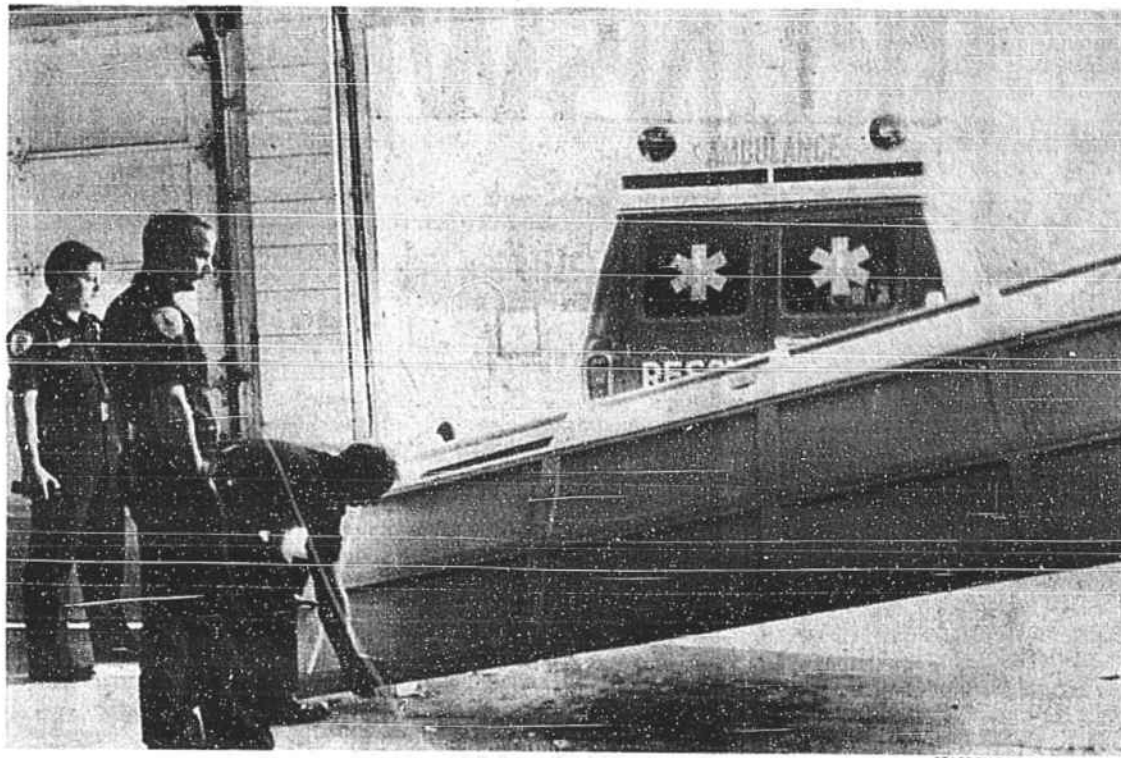
Ricky and James Wagoner, who were holding a home computer users' meeting shortly before the incident occurred.

Another occupant of the apartment, Brenda Smith, knew the youth and had spoken to him outside the apartment earlier.

After she went into the apartment, the youth drove to the end of a cul-de-sac, turned around and drove at a high speed into the apartment.

Barefoot would not comment further on the case, which was heard in a juvenile court hearing last week.

The law requires that juvenile hearings be closed to the public.



STAFF PHOTO BY ETTA SMITH

### Rescue Workers Injured

Shallotte policemen Joey Hoagland (far left), Chuck Yager and Sgt. Rodney Gause (bending) examine the garage door that fell on two Shallotte Volunteer Rescue Squad workers last Thursday. Dana Moore and Henry

Carter were slightly injured in the accident at the squad's building on N.C. 179 and Blake Street. Both were taken to the Brunswick Hospital, where Moore received stitches for two lacerations in her head.

## Typical April Weather Ahead

Typical mid- to late April is in the local weather forecast, with temperatures expected to average from the mid-50s at night into the mid-70s during the day.

Also, about a half-inch of rainfall is expected, said Shallotte Point meteorologist Jackson Canady.

For the period April 14-19, the weather was wet and a little on the cool side.

Canady recorded a maximum high of 74 degrees on the 19th. The minimum low was 46 degrees, recorded on both the 17th and 18th.

An average daily high of 70 degrees combined with an average nightly low of 54 degrees for a daily average temperature of 62 degrees, several degrees below normal.

Canady recorded 3.28 inches of precipitation.

"There was definitely a lot of rain this time," he said. Much of it fell during an April 15 thunderstorm.

## Sunset

(Continued From Page 1-A)

hold the legal and social obligation to provide public parking.

The property owners also heard updates on efforts to improve drainage on the island, an upcoming public hearing and the status of the high-rise bridge to the island.

## Highway Accidents Down For Easter

Only two relatively minor accidents marred the Easter weekend in Brunswick County. According to Ruby Oakley of the N.C. Highway Patrol, this is low for a holiday weekend. During Easter week in 1986, 13 accidents were reported on state highways.

This year, both were one-car accidents in which vehicles overturned. At 1:30 a.m. on April 17, Lyn Carol Edwards, 22, of Shallotte, was driving a 1981 Cadillac on rural paved road 1154, three miles east of Shallotte, when it ran off the road and overturned.

Trooper J.V. Dove said Edwards was going at a high rate of speed, and he charged her with reckless operation.

She suffered minor injuries, treated by a family physician. Damages to her car were estimated at \$3,000.

Sunday, at about the same time, a similar accident occurred on Hwy. 130, 14 miles west of Shallotte.

Billy Joe Johnson Jr., 24, of Ash, was driving a 1983 Datsun, when he ran off the road, struck a ditch, and overturned several times.

Johnson told Trooper L.M. Richardson he had fallen asleep, and he was charged with careless and reckless driving.

Johnson was not injured, but a passenger, Carolyn Wilson, 20, of Shallotte, suffered Class B injuries and was treated and released at The Brunswick Hospital.

Damages to the car were about \$5,000.

## State Intervenes In Access Case

(Continued From Page 1-A)

the coastal management division has the statutory duty to administer the Coastal and Estuarine Water Beach Access Program, and to manage and protect all public beach accessways, including the "foreshores," the area of the ocean beach located between the average high and low water marks of the Atlantic Ocean.

The state further alleges in the motion that the property in question in the lawsuit is so situated that disposition of the action may impede or impair the state's ability to protect the public's right of access.

Another suit involving beach access is also scheduled to be heard on April 27 in the Brunswick County Superior Court.

The suit, filed in 1985 by the Sunset Beach Taxpayers Association, Albert N. Wells, Charles L. Smith, Whaley P. Hunt and Frank Nesmith against Edward M. Gore and Beach Enterprises Inc., also claims that an area on Sunset Beach that was fenced off in 1978 to keep the public out should be public by virtue of imminent domain.

The state has filed no motion to intervene in that case.

## Square-Rigger 'Elizabeth II' Docks At Southport City Pier

She's here!

The Elizabeth II, North Carolina's 16th century square-rigged sailing ship, can be visited at Southport City Pier daily through April 28.

She will be open daily from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tours are \$3 for adults, \$2 for senior citizens and \$1.50 for

children ages six through 12. On board, living history interpreters portray what life was like for mariners and colonists who traveled similar ships in Sir Walter Raleigh's expeditions 400 years ago.

The Elizabeth II is a state historic whose home port is Manteo.

## Doberman Cross Needs An Owner

A male Doberman crossbreed pup is among the pets recommended for adoption this week by Brunswick County Animal Control Supervisor Zelma Babson.

The black and tan pup is three to four months old.

Also listed are a black and brown female German shepherd and lab

pup, six to eight weeks old, and a gray, orange and white female cat. She has been declawed.

These animals and others can be seen at the animal shelter Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The shelter is located off N.C. 211 south of the U.S. 17 intersection.

### Plant Gardens NOW!

**HARRELSON'S FARM & GARDEN CENTER**

1 mile south of Shallotte Hwy. 17 754-6373

Bedding Plants  
Vegetable Plants  
Garden Seed•Shrubby  
Fruit & Flowering Trees

Pine Straw•Fertilizer  
Peat Moss•Mulch

Century Stepping Stones  
Landscape Timbers  
Mobile Home Steps  
(Cement)

Gerbera Daisies  
Geraniums

**Browse through the greenhouse for foliage plants & flowering baskets.**

Now Open on Saturdays till 5 pm to serve you better

## NOW OPEN

First Investors proudly announces the opening of a temporary office on the construction site at Coastal Plaza. You are invited to call or drop by to see Wayne Tharp for your lending needs.

•••LOANS•••

- RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE
- HOME EQUITY
- LOTS
- CONSUMER

- CONSTRUCTION
- BEACH PROPERTY
- HOME IMPROVEMENT
- COMMERCIAL

CALL 754-5400

**First Investors**  
SAVINGS & LOAN, INC.  
Coastal Plaza, Hwy. 17 S, Shallotte

**Don't let indecision claim your life...**

**BREAST CANCER:** the leading cause of death for women between the ages of 40 and 44. The number 2 cause of death for all American Women (where 1 out of 10 will develop breast cancer some time during her life). Every 15 minutes, three women develop breast cancer. Of those three, one will die.

**...or the life of a loved one.**

At the Breast Care Center you can get a self-referral or physician referral mammography exam for only \$60, includes radiologist's interpretation (payable at the time of service). Our new Mammography Program can save you time,

money, and—maybe even your life. The decision to act now could be the wisest choice of your life! Call for an appointment:

**Women's Health Services  
Breast Care Center  
754-8121—Ext. 276**

**THE BRUNSWICK HOSPITAL**

an affiliate of **HCA** Hospital Corporation of America  
U.S. HIGHWAY 17 SOUTH/SUPPLY, NORTH CAROLINA 28462