

Dumpster Fire Extinguished

Sgt. Willie Stanley (left) and Capt. Ronnie Gore of the Calabash Volunteer Fire Department extinguish a dumpster fire off Hickman Road Sunday afternoon. It

was their second call to the same trash bin during the week: the first was last Thursday.

Coast Guard: 'Capt. Jim' Had All Required Safety Equipment

BY SUSAN USHER

The Calabash charter boat "Capt. Jim," which burned and sank Oct. 10, apparently had on board all required safety equipment, according to a preliminary investigation by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Those required items include 120 adult life jackets, four life "floats," four portable fire extinguishers and a ring buoy with waterproof light attached, indicated Lt. Commander Keith Moll, chief of the investigations department of the Coast Guard's Marine Safety Office in Wilmington.

Unlike life "rafts," which must be inflated, Moll said the floats aboard the "Capt. Jim" were "ready to use units." With styrofoam around the outside and webbing inside, passengers can sit inside them or stay in the water and use them to remain afloat.

When last inspected in March, the vessel was in good shape, passing all requirements for its type of vessel, he noted. "We found the ship to be in good condition whenever we inspected it," he said. "If there was ever a discrepancy, Capt. (Jimmy) Stevens either corrected it immediately or had it corrected before we called it to his attention. He seems to be a very responsible operator."

The "Capt. Jim" was a double-decker boat certified to carry up to 120 people within 20 miles of the coast.

As is standard practice, said Moll, its supply of 120 adult life jackets was divided for storage, so that the flotation devices could be passed out on both decks in the event of an emergency and so that a fire or collision at one point wouldn't prevent reaching at least some of the equipment.

Moll's office is completing its investigation of the Oct. 10 fire. Molls said Stevens and several of his crew members were interviewed, with statements obtained from all of them.

Investigators are also contacting passengers, which has slowed completion of the report since many were from out of the area, said Moll. "Some of them have been difficult to contact."

The interviews and research of the

vessel's records will be used in compiling the final report. "We're trying to determine as best we can the sequence of events and what happened," he said.

Hopefully, he added, the report will be completed and sent to the Coast Guard district office in Portsmouth, Va., "sometime next week," then forwarded to headquarters in Washington, D.C., for review.

The report will include the office's finding of facts, conclusions and recommendations.

The 68-year-old Stevens suffered several broken ribs in the blaze, which he suspects was caused by an electrical fire that began in the engine room.

His 56 passengers and five crew members jumped into the Atlantic Ocean and were soon rescued by private boats in the area.

From his marina in Calabash, the veteran mariner also operates the "Gulf Stream II."

VOTE NOV. 3 FOR

BOB BUCK

FOR HOLDEN BEACH COMMISSIONER
KEEP HOLDEN BEACH A FAMILY BEACH

Fight Mars Homecoming

A 17-year-old West Brunswick High School student was arrested Friday night following an altercation outside the high school stadium where the West Brunswick-South Robeson football game was underway.

No one apparently was injured in the scuffle, which occurred in a school parking lot Friday around 9:30 p.m. during the second half of the game.

According to the warrant for his arrest, James Alfonza Gause, 17, of Route 1, Shallotte, was charged Friday with disorderly conduct and resisting arrest, in connection with the fight.

Gause was released from the Brunswick County Jail on a \$200 secured bond, with his trial date set for Oct. 26 in Brunswick County District Criminal Court.

Brunswick County Sheriff's Det. Lindsey Walton said 10 to 15 persons were involved in the incident, which he described as "an ordinary street fight."

Gause was taken into custody by Deputy Christopher Holmes. No other arrests were reported in connection with the fight.

Walton said the combatants scattered when officers arrived on the scene.

"He (Gause) just happened to be the unlucky one that was grabbed,"

Walton said.

Traffic through the parking area was blocked for approximately 15 minutes, while deputies brought the situation under control.

Assistant Principal Roy Deal said Monday Gause is a junior at West Brunswick. He added that the Friday night scuffle was nothing out of the ordinary.

Chance Of Weekend Rain

The Shallotte area can expect a possibility of scattered showers this weekend, although the spotty rainfall won't alleviate current dry conditions, according to Shallotte Point meteorologist Jackson Canady.

He said this area has received no significant rainfall in the past three weeks, with the level below normal for October.

Canady's outlook through the weekend is for temperatures to remain below normal, ranging from the mid 50s at night to the mid 70s during the day.

Precipitation should be near nor-

mal, around one-half inch, he said.

For the period Oct. 13 through 19, Canady recorded an average daily temperature of 61 degrees, which was four degrees below normal.

The average daily high temperature was 75 degrees, while the average nightly low was 47 degrees.

The maximum high temperature was 83 degrees on Oct. 17. The minimum low temperature was 40 degrees on Oct. 14.

Canady measured no rainfall during the period.

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OFFICIAL NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING TO THE MEMBERS OF Atlantic Telephone Membership Corporation

The Thirtieth Annual Meeting of the Members of Atlantic Telephone Membership Corporation will be held in the West Brunswick High School Gymnasium, Shallotte, North Carolina, Friday evening, October 23, 1987 at 7:30 p.m. Member registration will begin at 4:00 p.m. Three directors will be elected for three year terms. Audit, financial and operating reports will be presented. Entertainment will also be featured and each member attending will receive a small memento. Many useful and attractive door prizes will be awarded in addition to a grand prize. Refreshments will also be available.

In accordance with the by-laws, the Committee on Nominations met and nominated the following members as candidates from directorial districts as follows:

District 1: Mr. Lyle Ray King
District 3: Mrs. Carol H. Danford
District 6: Mr. Douglas H. Hawes

Additional nominations for Directors may be made by petition or from the floor at the meeting. Our current telephone book contains a complete set of by-laws on pages 138 thru 144. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.



COOPERATIVES—PEOPLE IN PARTNERSHIP

Consumer Guide #1

Three Signs of a Smart House

CP&L's Common Sense House

With The Energy-Efficient Heat Pump

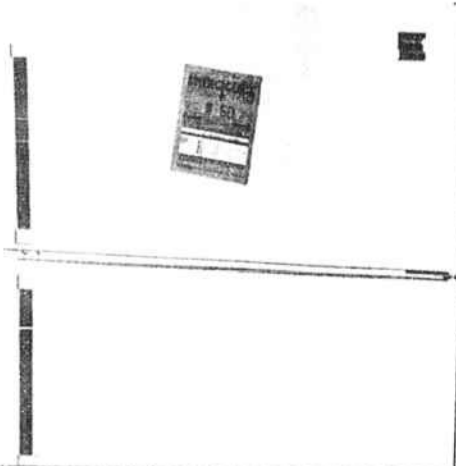
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