

## Carolers Will Boat Door-To-Door Sunday Along Holden Beach Canals

Carolers will be going door-to-door at Holden Beach Sunday—by boat.

On their third annual Waterway Christmas Caroling venture, the singing boaters are planning stops at Harbor Acres, Heritage Harbor and Holden Beach Harbor Canals at the beach, Sea-Aire Canals, concluding with carols on the waterway at the Holden Beach Bridge.

Residents of the canal areas are asked to turn on their canal-side lights if they would like the small flotilla of carolers to stop, said spokesman Martin Feldt.

Harbor Acres is the first stop, from about 5:30 p.m.

to 6:10 p.m., followed by Heritage Harbor, 6:20 p.m.-6:50 p.m.; Holden Beach Harbor, 7 p.m.-7:45 p.m.; Sea-Aire Canals, 7:55 p.m.- 8:10 p.m.

Their last stop, at the bridge, should begin at approximately 8:25 p.m. and will last about 25 minutes. Times may vary by 15 minutes to 20 minutes.

According to Feldt, the best sites for viewing and listening near the bridge will be Holden Beach Marina, Captain Pete's and the Holden Beach public parking lot.

Santa will be throwing candy to children along the route.

## Student Drivers Get A Reprieve; But Local Replacement Continues

BY SUSAN USHER

Though the federal Department of Labor has agreed to allow North Carolina schools to use 17-year-old bus drivers at least through the end of the school year, soon most, if not all, of Brunswick County's drivers will be adults.

County schools began the transition to an all-adult force with passage of a policy by the school board in August 1985. That same month the board hired William Gurganious as transportation supervisor.

Even with the county policy, he said, the Labor Department action "has taken the pressure off" of recruiting and training efforts.

"If they had kept it in force, we had

15 or 20 buses that wouldn't have run on the highway (on Jan. 4)," he estimated. Gurganious added he probably could have double-routed some drivers or persuaded some certified adults who have chosen not to take a bus to work on a temporary basis.

A month ago, Gurganious said, approximately 40 drivers in the system would have been affected by the Labor Department ruling. But this week, the number had dropped to 25, as more adult drivers are hired and teens phased out.

"We've got about eight more replacements going on in the first weeks of January," he added.

Gurganious said there are "some outstanding" teen drivers in the

system that he would like to keep. As is, he hopes they will stay on as substitutes.

"It's board policy to phase them out, but we're going to lose some real good drivers," he said.

Brunswick County operates a fleet of approximately 135 buses.

The U.S. Department of Labor had ordered the state to stop using drivers under age 18 by Jan. 1. Last Thursday, after intensive lobbying by state officials, it relented, allowing the youths to continue driving through the school year.

The state legislature ended use of 16-year-old drivers with action taken last summer, leaving only 17-year-olds affected by the policy.

School bus drivers are recruited by the principal and staff of each school in the system as needed, Gurganious said, not by his office or by bus driver trainer Vicki Jenrette.

However, if drivers are needed in particular areas, he said he's likely to ask prospects from other areas if they know potential drivers in the target neighborhoods.

## County ABC Stores Sold More Than 500,000 Bottles In 86-87

BY SUSAN USHER

Liquor sales were big business in Brunswick County again in fiscal year 86-87.

The county's nine Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) boards sold 474,943 regular bottles of liquor last year, along with 53,876 mini-bottles and another 28,306 in bottles for mixed drinks.

Those sales yielded profits before distribution of from 3.2% at Sunset Beach to 13.27% at Ocean Isle Beach.

As in past years, the Shallotte ABC Board chalked up the greatest volume of business, selling 99,384 regular bottles and 15,030 mini-bottles from July 1986 through June 1987.

The store reported a 9.62% profit before distributions, a net profit of \$73,766. It's operating expenses of \$104,836 were the highest of the nine boards. The board distributed \$93,500 to municipal and county agencies, in excess of its income for the year.

Several boards distributed their entire net profits, such as Southport and Long Beach, while others retained earnings as at Sunset Beach.

ABC Board Revenues 1986-87

ABC Board	Bottles (Reg.) Sold	Percent Profit	Net Profit	Operating Expenses	County/Municipal Distributions
Shallotte	99,384	9.62	73,766	104,836	93,500
Belville	82,631	10.33	69,213	78,922	60,213
Southport	69,121	11.04	59,869	74,439	59,869
Calabash	54,331	7.14	30,130	75,828	15,129
Long Beach	46,856	8.98	40,977	70,722	40,977
Ocean Isle	42,674	13.27	51,318	47,623	39,301
Yaupon Beach	36,118	8.90	28,116	47,747	24,715
Sunset Beach	27,186	3.82	9,815	49,923	None
Boiling Spring Lakes	16,642	5.81	7,315	21,948	None

The board there has asked to be temporarily relieved of some local distributions. It wants to set aside money for redoing the store, which last year showed the lowest percent profit of any in the county, though actual sales were lower at Boiling Spring Lakes. Sunset Beach showed a continued decline in percent of profits, from 4.89% to 3.82%.

Also making no distributions this year was Boiling Spring Lakes, which is recovering from a period in which the board operated in the red.

Five stores increased their percent

of profits in the past year, while four showed a decline. Belville went from 8.68% to 10.32%, and Boiling Spring Lakes from 2.72% to 5.81% and Calabash from 1.30% to 7.14%.

Six of the nine boards were involved with sale of alcohol for mixed-drink operations: Calabash, Ocean Isle Beach, Sunset Beach, Southport, Long Beach and Yaupon Beach.

Statewide, boards with mixed beverages reported an average profit percentage of 13.09% compared to an average 9.16% for those boards without mixed beverages.

## Two Road Accidents Send 12 To Hospital Emergency Rooms

Two 2-vehicle accidents on Brunswick County roads last week sent 12 people to hospitals for examination and/or treatment.

Five persons were injured Thursday 9.5 miles west of Belville when a northbound 1984 Datsun operated by Andrew Lendon Jenkins pulled out of N.C. 87 onto U.S. 74 in front of a westbound 1979 Dodge operated by Marvin McAllister Miller, 38, of Evergreen, reported N.C. Highway Patrol spokesman Ruby Oakley.

In the 5:35 p.m. accident, Trooper B.C. Jones charged Miller with failure to yield the right-of-way.

Damages to each vehicle were estimated at \$4,000.

Miller and three passengers in his car were transported to the hospital with Class B or moderate injuries. The passengers were James Pridgen of Whiteville, Bob Steele Jones of Chadbourn and Amos Strickland of Nichols, S.C.

In the second auto, Jenkins complained of injury.

Three persons were seriously injured and four others moderately injured in a two-car accident that happened at 9:15 p.m. Friday on U.S. 17 about 11 miles south of Shallotte.

Joseph J. Golly, 19, of Cherry Point, was charged by Trooper B.L. Wilkes with driving left of center. Driving south on U.S. 17, he passed a vehicle and pulled back in behind a slower-moving vehicle, reported Wilkes. When Golly braked, his 1981 Chevrolet slid into the northbound lane, striking a 1987 Oldsmobile operated by Linda Piver Chappell, 37, of Ash.

Piver was also charged, with not wearing a seat belt and having allowed her vehicle registration to expire. Golly was uninjured.

Piver and a passenger, Lynn Causey, 22, of Ash, received moderate injuries, as did Ralph Douglas Jr., 20, and John Edward Hiwes Jr., 19, both of Cherry Point and passengers in the Golly vehicle.

Three other passengers in the Piver auto were transported to The Brunswick Hospital in Supply with serious or Class A injuries. They were Donna Piver, 26, and Marcelane Formyduval, 56, both of Ash, and Sharon Miller, 25, of Shallotte.

Damage was estimated at \$4,000 to the Golly vehicle and \$7,000 to the Piver auto.

During the Christmas holidays, Oakley said Tuesday, patrolling troopers will be "on the look-out for drunk drivers as they try to keep the highways safe."

## EMC Upholds Oyster Bay Penalty

BY RAHN ADAMS

The utility company that serves a Brunswick County condominium development and golf course must pay a fine for wastewater treatment violations—the penalty upheld last week by the N.C. Environmental Management Commission in Raleigh.

According to EMC spokesperson Bryson Jenkins, the commission last Thursday gave Oyster Bay Utilities Inc. of Wilmington 30 days to pay a civil penalty of \$4,211.12 for violations at its wastewater treatment plant at Bonaparte Landing.

Ms. Jenkins said Oyster Bay cannot appeal the commission decision, since the company waived its right to an administrative hearing by requesting mitigation (reduction) of the penalty.

The waiver stipulated that there were "no factual or legal issues in dispute" in the case, said Ms. Jenkins.

Oyster Bay Utilities operates a 40,000-gallon wastewater treatment plant and provides sewer service to the Oyster Bay Plantation condominium development, golf course

and clubhouse facility on N.C. 179 near the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway.

On Aug. 10, the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development notified Oyster Bay Utilities President Tripp Sloane that the company had been fined for failing to adequately operate and maintain its treatment plant on three occasions, and for failing to retain one of two required monitoring wells at the wastewater plant.

The DEM said breaks were found in pipes in the wastewater system's disposal field during inspections on March 26, April 24 and June 15.

In a letter dated Aug. 31, Sloane requested mitigation of the civil penalty, calling the penalty "excessive" because the company had made "earnest attempts" to correct problems at the plant, said Ms. Jenkins.

He also said the company was operating on a "tight budget" and was not in a position to pay the fine, said Ms. Jenkins.

Oyster Bay's \$4,200 assessment was 10 percent of the maximum penalty authorized by law, she said.

Ms. Jenkins said the DEM staff recommended that the EMC uphold the penalty against Oyster Bay, since the company's request for reduction of the fine did not present sufficient new information which should have been considered by the DEM prior to assessment. Also, Oyster Bay did not sufficiently demonstrate an inability to pay the fine.

## West Concert Is Tonight

A "Night of Christmas Music" will be provided by the West Brunswick High School Chorus and Band today (Thursday) at 7 p.m.

The public is invited to the concert, which will be given in the high school's multipurpose room (No. 123).

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