Local Car Dealer Loses Life In Feb. 3 Accident

An Ocean Isle Beach resident and Shallotte businessman was killed at 11:55 p.m. Wednesday (Feb. 3) in a one-car accident on Ocean Isle Beach Road.

Sidney Edward (Ed) Jones, 45, owner of Jones Ford in Shallotte,

was driving east on S.R. 1153 in a 1990 Ford. His 1990 Ford ran off the roadway on the right shoulder, came back onto the roadway, then ran off the road on the left. The car struck a tree and overturned, according to the report filed by Trooper J.V. Dove of the N.C. Highway Patrol.

Jones died instantly, said Brunswick County

Coroner Greg White.

A native of Fayetteville, he and his family moved to Ocean Isle Beach from Thomasville in 1986, Jones was a past member of the board of directors of the South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce.

Survivors include his wife, Sue McCullen Jones, a son, Edward "Eddie" Jones II, and a daughter, Theresa Suzanne Jones, all of the home; a brother, Curtis Jones of Columbia, S.C.; and a sister, Joyce Underwood of Newton; and his mother, Berline Bedsole Jones of Cedar Creek community near Fayetteville.

Study Suggests Lockwood Is Good Area For Clams

A recent study by the N.C. Institute of Marine Sciences indicates what local folks have known for generations: Lockwood Folly River is one of the state's hotbeds

"It's an exceptional area," said Dr. Charles "Pete" Peterson, who helped coordinate the research. "It was one of the best. It was matched by a couple of other areas, but it wasn't exceeded by any.

Lockwood Folly River was one of 56 sites studied as part of a project in which seed clams were planted in different shellfish habitats along the North Carolina coast.

Approximately 800,000 tiny clams from a commercial hatchery in Atlantic were planted between Lockwood Folly and Hatteras Inlet in 1990 and early 1991, according to the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries.

Peterson said nearly 50 percent of the clams planted in Lockwood Folly have grown to marketable size in just two years. "Both of those are exceptional," he said of the percentage and time period.

Hard clams were planted along the coast to test the feasibility of using hatchery-reared stocks to stimulate clam production on public bottom. Many of the clams are now reaching the legal size for harvest of one inch thick.

The clams were planted under different conditions to find areas where survival was highest.

Recent samplings of the experimental plots showed survival was highest in areas with shelly bottoms,

where up to 40 percent of the small clams reached harvestable size.

"Lockwood Folly was an area where we had one of the best survival rates," Peterson said. "They grew very fast.'

Peterson said the seed clams in Lockwood Folly were planted on shell beds where fishermen would normally find shellfish. Clams were planted in areas open to harvesting and areas presently closed due to bacterial pollution.

Peterson, a member of the N.C. Environmental Management Commission, said the biggest problem in Lockwood Folly River system is the pollution. Clams are thriving in areas where they can't be harvested.

The Marine Sciences project was funded by a special appropriation of the General Assembly sponsored by members of the Joint Legislative Commission on Seafood and Aquaculture. Lockwood Folly was the only local site studied.

A portion of Lockwood Folly River was closed Monday to allow the Division of Marine Fisheries to move clams from polluted waters to areas where the shellfish can later be harvested.

Rich Carpenter, southern district manager with Marine Fisheries, said biologist are moving the clams in advance of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dredging of the river

Clams are being moved to the Galloway Flats and Spring Branch areas. Carpenter said Tuesday he doesn't know how long the relay will last. "It just depends on how many clams we find."

Drivers Injured In Big Neck Road Accident

Both drivers were injured in a two-car accident Thursday Feb. 4, at 2:10 p.m. on Big Neck Road (S.R. 1335), 4.7 miles west of Shallotte on Big Neck Road, according to the N.C. Highway Patrol.

Roland Patterson, 18, of Ash, was driving east on Big Neck Road in a 1985 Nissan and Ramona Puckett, 42, of Whiteville, was traveling west in a 1990 Nissan. Puckett was attempting to turn left into a driveway when Patterson's car struck hers in the front, Trooper D.B. Harvell indicated in his report. Patterson's car ran off the roadway into a yard and struck a bush and a fence.

Puckett was charged with a safe movement violation.

Both Puckett and Patterson were transported to The Brunswick Hospital with injuries.

Damage to Patterson's vehicle were an estimated \$3,000, and to Puckett's, an estimated \$5,000.

A driver and her passenger were injured in a two-car accident that occured Wednesday, Feb. 3, at 5:30 p.m. at the intersection of U.S. 17 and N.C. 87 South, according to the report filed by Trooper D.A. Lewis.

Sandra Benton McCrea, 28, of Winnabow, and her passenger, Samantha McCrea, 2, were taken to New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington with serious

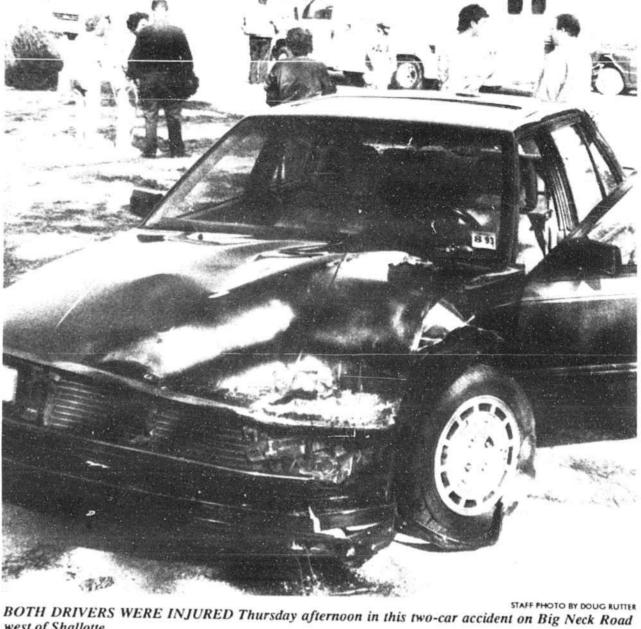
McCrea was traveling south on U.S. 17 toward Bell Swamp Road (S.R. 1406) when her 1987 Subaru struck a 1977 Mercury operated by Debbie Lynn Guadagnoli, 26, of Southport. Guadagnoli had pulled out and was crossing U.S. 17 from

Guadagnoli was charged with a yield violation and having no insurance. Neither she nor a passenger in her car were injured.

The McCrea vehicle received an estimated \$1,700 in damages, while damages to the Guadagnoli were an estimated \$500.

Two Leland teen-agers were seriously injured Sunday, Feb. 7, in a 4 a.m. one-car accident that occurred 3.2 miles west of Leland on U.S. 74.

Rona Martin and her passenger, Malike Robbins, both 17, were transported to New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilm-



Martin was driving east on U.S. 74 in a 1983 Chevrolet when her car ran off the right side of the road and struck a utility pole. She was charged with failure to drive on the right half

west of Shallotte.

of a highway by Trooper B.L. Wilkes, the investigating officer. Damage to her car was estimated at \$1,000.

Edward Earl Waddell, 34, of Leland, was transported to New Han-

over Regional Medical Center with serious injuries following another one-car accident that happened Friday, Feb. 5, at 7:50 p.m. on Old Fayetteville Road (S.R. 1437) in Leland.

According to Trooper D.A. Lewis's report, Waddell was traveling west on Old Fayetteville Road at a high rate of speed when his 1985 Mazda ran off the road onto the right shoulder and out of control. It came back on the roadway, continued off the left shoulder, struck a ditch and overturned, coming to rest upside down in the westbound lane of the road.

Waddell was charged with driving while his license was revoked and careless and reckless driving.

Damage to the Mazda was estimated at \$2,000.

Corps Hires Dredge Company

Chesapeake, Va., will be hired to dredge the Lockwood Folly River

channel this winter. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is expected to award the contract today (Thursday), said Howard Varnam of the Corps navigation section in Wilmington.

"We should be dredging in there around the first of March," Varnam

Atkinson was the low bidder on the project at \$1,427,600. Varnam said the bid was within 125 percent of the government estimate of \$1,156,636.

The dredging will extend approximately 3.6 miles upstream of the Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, or about two miles north of the Varnamtown landing. The channel

Atkinson Dredging Company of will be dredged eight feet deep and 100 feet wide.

> Approximately 180,000 cubic yards of spoil material will be transported through 25,000 feet of temporary pipeline to Long Beach for renourishment of the eroding west

> Dredging the channel is expected to make it possible for fishermen to move their boats to safe harbor upstream when hurricanes threaten.

> Brunswick County shellfishermen also hope clearing the channel will improve water flow and water quality in the river, which has been plagued by bacterial pollution.

The river channel hasn't been dredged since 1973. At that time, the dredge boat only went as far upstream as the Varnamtown boat

Civietown Store Is Barred From Food Stamp Program A Brunswick County store has re- can commit," said Paul F. Kermon food they need for a healthy diet. up more than 50 percent of the

ceived the maximum penalty for of FNS' Raleigh office. food stamp program violations, according to a news release from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service.

Woody's Grocery at Civictown, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Hugh A. Bellamy, was permanently disqualified from participating in the food stamp program "based on evidence showing that store personnel exchanged cash for food stamps," according to the release.

"Trafficking is the more severe violation of the food stamp program that a store owner or his employees Kermon added that food stamps

can be used legally only to buy food or seeds and plants to be used in gardens to grow food. Food stamps cannot legally be used to buy alcoholic beverages and tobacco, automotive products, paper products or pet foods.

"Although many non-food items are necessities, purchasing these items with food stamps or trafficking in food stamps circumvents the intent of the program," Kermon said. "The program is designed to help low-income families buy the

Any other type of transaction with food stamps is prohibited."

Before a store owner can participate in the food stamp program, he or she must certify that the store sells food for home preparation and consumption. Staple items, such as meat, bread, cereals, fruits, vegetastore's total food sales.

Store owners accepting food stamps must sign an agreement that they will abide by the program's rules. Violations of the rules result in stores being disqualified for periods of time ranging from six months to permanently. The penalty for trafficking in food stamps is permanent bles and dairy products must make disqualification from the program.





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Literacy Council Sets Tutor Training

Brunswick County Literacy Council is sponsoring a tutor training workshop at its office in Supply, to be held Saturday, Feb. 27, and Saturday, March 6, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days.

The free workshop, led by trainer Susan Usher Eggert, will familiarize participants with the problem of illiteracy in Brunswick County and the work of the Literacy Council to provide free, confidential help to county residents.

Those who complete both ses-

sions will be qualified to tutor an adult student one-on-one using the phonics-based Laubach Method.

The council also provides other volunteer opportunities, including working with children at Head Start, local elementary and high schools, involvement in public awareness or fundraising activities, or helping in the Literacy Council office.

For information, or to pre-register, call the Literacy Council at 754-



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