

# Shallotte To Charge Beauty Queens To Appear In Annual Christmas Parade

BY SUSAN USHER

It may provoke a few references to Scrooge, but starting this holiday season, beauty pageant queens will pay an entry fee to appear in Shallotte's annual Christmas parade, unless riding on a commercial float.

Faced with higher parade costs and declining revenue, town aldermen voted 3-2 at their Sept. 7 meeting to charge the queens an entry fee rather than go up on the fees charged commercial entries or floats. The fee adopted is identical to that charged queens to participate in the Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce Christmas Festival Parade, which is also held the first Saturday in December.

Mayor Sarah Tripp said she didn't anticipate it being a problem for the queens, "because most of them have commercial sponsorship."

Each queen will be pay a \$25 registration fee and provide her own car, banner and driver. The rules also set a cap of 25 on the number of queens that will be accepted in the parade. Last year approximately 20 participated, according to town hall secretary Phoebe McLean, who is coordinating the parade. She said queens who ride on commercial floats would not be charged since sponsors pay entry fees for the floats.

Aldermen Wilton Harrelson and

Paul Wayne Reeves were against the move.

"I think this would be a big mistake," said Harrelson. He reminded fellow board members that some beauty queens receive appearance fees.

In her opening comments, McLean told the board, "At the rate we're going, sooner or later there won't be a Christmas parade. Each year I'm operating on less."

McLean said most towns are faced with this problem because their local chamber of commerce handles the Christmas parade.

Now coordinated by town employees, for many years the parade was organized by a committee of volunteers who solicited entries.

Money raised from commercial entry fees and floats is used to help cover parade expenses. Some of those expenses include contributions of up to \$200 each for Shriner units to help cover travel-related expenses, with the local Sudan Thunderbolts receiving \$50 as the hometown unit; \$50 each to cover transportation costs for participating bands; \$50 for Santa Claus; \$200 for newspaper advertising; \$175 per float for 15 floats (\$2,625); and candy. This year the town may reserve fewer floats, McLean said, because the fee will increase to \$190 each.

The town at one time also provided a meal for the Shriners, but has since eliminated that, said Mayor Sarah Tripp.

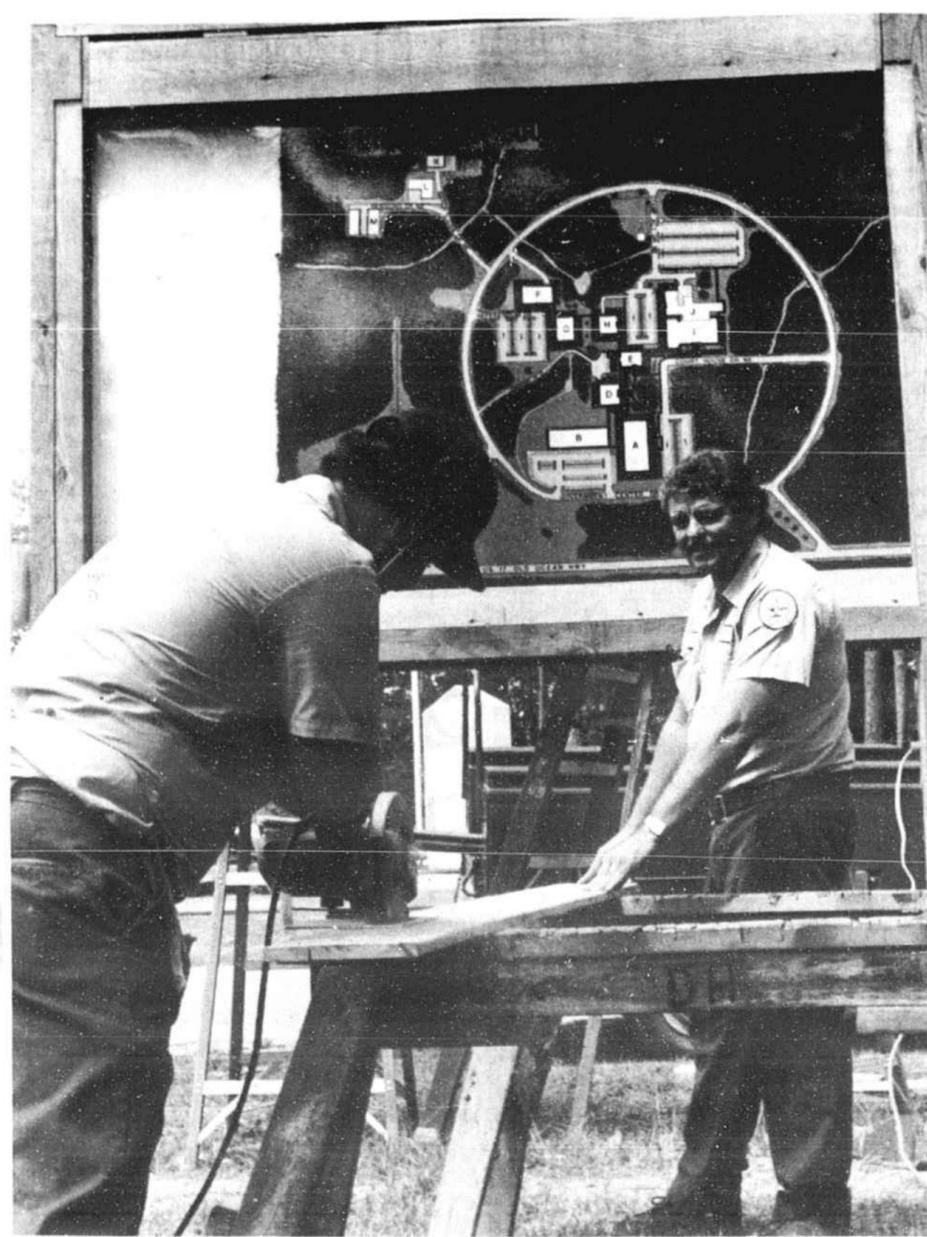
Fees for parade entries include \$225 for a full float or \$150 each if split by two businesses; \$35 for individual commercial entries; and new this year, the \$25 fee for a beauty queen. Churches, civic groups and other not-for-profit organizations may enter at no charge.

Entries are being accepted through Friday, Nov. 26.

In other business, aldermen: **Delayed a release due Portent Inc.** for taxes for the years 1990, 1991 and 1992 for a parcel that had been sold to someone else, saying they didn't know if the new owner had been identified for tax purposes.

**Ended Michael Ferster's** probationary employment as a police officer. Chief Rodney Gause had recommended probation not be extended a second time.

Also on Sept. 7, the town's Board of Adjustment voted unanimously to grant a lot size variance requested by Bobby Long and Albert Hughes for H & L subdivision on N.C. 130 east, saying that compliance with the lot size requirement would create a hardship. The variance had been recommended by the town planning board.



The Signs Says...

...it's this way. Visitors to the Brunswick County Government Center at Bolivia will soon have help in finding their way about maze of buildings and offices. Maintenance technicians (from left) Dwayne Whitley and Dennis Hewett last Thursday were mounting a directory sign created by Steve Randone, GIS manager. A pull-over will accommodate those who need to stop and check the map. Other directional signs on the grounds are being updated.

## School Board Passes Personnel List

Brunswick County Board of Education members Monday night approved a long list of teachers and other employees hired in the weeks before fall classes began.

Among other actions, they filled the vacant assistant principal's post at West Brunswick High and vacated the same position at North Brunswick High. (See related story this issue.)

The personnel list, as amended, was approved on a 4-1 vote, with District 5 Board member Yvonne Bright voting against it. "I just didn't approve of it," she said later.

Teachers hired include these, by school:

**Union Elementary:** Dawn Dill, Wilmington, special education.

**Supply Elementary:** Judy Auman, Bolivia, Chapter I parent educator; Gail Coles, Yaupon Beach, interim special education.

**West Brunswick:** Arthur Clessuras, Ocean Isle Beach, Choices.

**Waccamaw Elementary:** Melanie Champion, Holden Beach, physical education.

**South Middle:** Kristyn Bahr, Wilmington, and Peggy Reeves, Ocean Isle Beach, middle grades.

**Lincoln:** Nona Baker, Leland, Reading Recovery; Sheila Hardison, Wilmington, elementary; Kimberly Keating, Wilmington, Chapter I Pre-K; Teresa Brandon, Wilmington, speech-language specialist.

**Leland Middle:** Deborah Stapperfenne, Wilmington, special education; SuAnn Burton, Castle Hayne, and Bruce Young, Wrightsville Beach, middle grades.

**North Brunswick:** Myra Harris, Wilmington, interim extended day English, 60 percent; Southport Elementary: Heather Nelson, Wilmington, and Katherine Wooten, Boiling Spring Lakes, elementary; Brookelyn Elmore, Greensboro, special education.

**South Brunswick High:** Aleta Ross, Wilmington, social studies.

**Bolivia Elementary:** Mary Nash, Southport, elementary; Amy Taylor, Wilmington, special education; Paige Hartgrove, Wilmington, 50 percent special education; Helen Laugisch, Supply, interim elementary;

**Heather Smith, Ocean Isle Beach, Chapter I Pre-K home-based, Waccamaw, Bolivia and Supply elementary.**

Also hired were Glen Dowe, seven-hour custodian, Leland Middle; Wanda Marlowe, BEH teacher assistant,

Supply Elementary; Garry Hill, Willie M. special education teacher assistant, Shallotte Middle; Linda Bullard, head custodian, and Mark Williamson, interim 6-hour custodian, Supply Elementary; Susan Gore, interim teacher assistant, Waccamaw Elementary; Gina Gore, teacher assistant, Union Elementary; Gwendolyn Burckley, interim school secretary, Shallotte Middle; Elizabeth Osiek, interim teacher assistant, Southport Elementary.

Resignations were accepted from Southport Elementary guidance counselor Linda Wallace and Pupil Personnel and Support Services Director Judith Babcock, whose last day was Monday. Babcock accepted an assistant superintendency in another state. Also resigning were Nolie McDonald, cafeteria assistant, Shallotte Middle; and Lula Jones, custodian, Lincoln Primary.

Retirements were approved for Geraldine Tobias of Wilmington, a middle grades teacher at South Brunswick Middle; Carol Roycroft of Shallotte, an elementary teacher at Union Elementary; Mary McCoy, teacher assistant, Bolivia Elementary; and Willie Webster, plumber, maintenance department.

Charles Alexander and Johnnie Gore were granted leave for the 1993-94 school term. Short-term leave was approved for Ellen Bulak, teacher assistant, Union. Foster McKoy, Lincoln Primary head custodian, was approved for short-term disability.

Harold Johnson declined the JTPA remediation teacher post offered earlier.

Gloria Williams of Wilmington, a teacher of the hearing impaired, was transferred from Lincoln Primary to Leland Middle; and Laura Beasley of Wilmington from Southport Elementary to Lincoln Primary.

Other transfers include Patricia Mims, central office secretary to interim administrative assistant, Bolivia Elementary; Sheila Huskins, teacher assistant, from Union to Supply Elementary; Kenneth White, special education teacher assistant, South Brunswick High, to in-school suspension teacher assistant, South Brunswick Middle; Joseph White, JTPA remediation teacher assistant, central office, to special education teacher assistant, South Brunswick High; Lori Varnum, Chapter I computer specialist/records clerk to Chapter I secretary, central office; Joyce Cox, media assistant to teacher assistant, Supply Elementary.

Ten substitute teachers were approved.

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Pictured left to right: Barbara Rhodes, Ruby Cheers, Frances Long, Kay Lawson and Ethel Watson.

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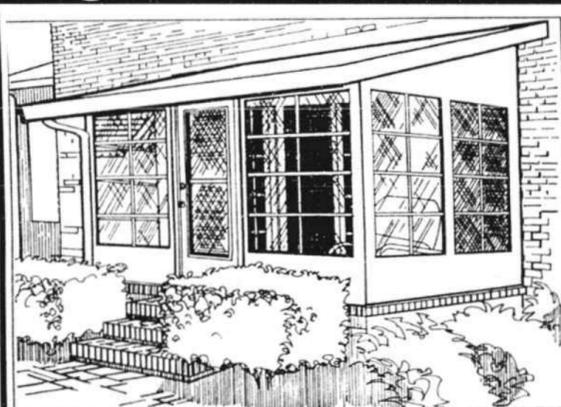
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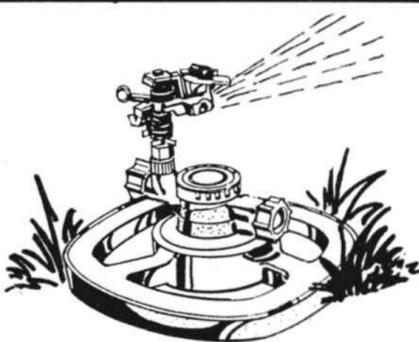
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