



**BENEFACTORS** Odell and Virginia Williamson of Ocean Isle Beach Monday night assign a contract that establishes an endowment to fund an oratorical scholarship program in their names in perpetuity. Shown with them (above left) is Brunswick County Board of Education attorney Glen Peterson.

## Williamsons' Endowment Will Assure Continuation Of Scholarship Awards

BY SUSAN USHER

A \$100,000 endowment announced Monday by Odell and Virginia Williamson Monday night will assure that an oratorical scholarship contest in their names will continue indefinitely.

In the ceremony announcing the endowment Monday night, Brunswick County Board of Education Chairman Donna Baxter described the Williamsons as individuals who have "always been a friend to education in Brunswick County and to the future of Brunswick County."

This is the first and only endowment established for the Brunswick County Schools, the school system finance office confirmed Tuesday.

Since 1972 the Ocean Isle Beach couple has sponsored the Odell and Virginia Williamson Scholarship Awards. Valued currently at \$2,500 each, the one-time awards go to support the college education of the senior boy and and senior girl who win a countywide oratorical contest.

"I can't think of any other program that we have started that has been more rewarding or done more for the leadership of Brunswick County," Williamson told the school board before he and his wife signed the formal contractual agreement and presented a personal check for \$100,000. "We get letters every year thanking us for this opportunity to go to college."

"We want this to continue on, since I think it means so much to the Brunswick County Schools," he said. "You can't win a competition if there isn't a competition."

Interest income from the Odell and Virginia Williamson Scholarship Awards Fund will be used to fund the annual scholarships, plus related expenses of up to 10 percent of the two scholarships' value. These would include judges' gifts and travel expenses, refreshments and plaques or other mementos for contest participants.

Contest rules are subject to revision by the Williamsons during their lifetimes. Currently they require contestants:

- to have attended a Brunswick County high school for at least two years;

- to plan to enter a North Carolina four-year college or university or to attend a two-year college and transfer to a four-year institution;

- complete entry forms and abide by contest rules.

Each school holds its own competition each spring, with boy and girl winners receiving \$100 cash awards and advancing to countywide competition. If there is no contest in a local school, a boy and girl from the school may still compete in the countywide competition but no \$100 scholarships are awarded at the school.

In competition student orators are to speak five to seven minutes on a subject of their choice without using props or a public address system. They are to not use profanity and are to avoid unnecessary use of slang and colloquialisms. The speech should be original, with any quotes credited to their source, and should be of an oratorical rather than dramatic nature. Students are free to refer to notes or an outline and to use appropriate gestures.

If the scholarship recipient fails to enter college within two years after the contest, the scholarship will be awarded to the first runner-up under the same terms.

Should the school system decide to discontinue the scholarship awards, the endowment will then go the Cape Fear Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

Among other significant charitable gifts, the Williamsons have also endowed a scholarship to Campbell University, a dining facility at Camp Bowers, and a management fund for the Odell Williamson Auditorium at Brunswick Community College.



**TERESA PARKER, Angela Lyons, Thelma Boyer and Coretha Hickman** were among nine students recently inducted as members of the National Vocational-Technical Honor Society members at Brunswick Community College. They're shown with Velma Williams, chapter advisor.

## HONORED AT BCC

# Nine Students Inducted In Vocation Technical Society

Nine Brunswick Community College students were inducted into the National Vocational Technical Honor Society recently in a candlelight ceremony in the BCC teaching auditorium.

Society members must maintain a 3.60 or better grade point average in a curriculum program and must have completed at least 24 hours in their field of study. Those inducted were Teresa Parker, Southport, business computer programming; Dianne Johnson, Shallotte, cosmetology; Thelma Louise Boyer and Rosemary Louise Scofield, Wilmington, cosmetology; Deborah Ross Lanier and Beverly Yopp Tyler, Wilmington, practical nursing; Coretha Hickman, Bolivia, business computer programming; Rhonda Starr Wiggins, Leland, business administration; and Angela Lyons, Leland, administrative office technology.

"What is honor?" was the subject addressed by speaker Ethel Grissett Stanley, a child abuse and neglect

counselor with the Brunswick County Department of Social Services. The BCC graduate received the Delilah H. Banks Outstanding Student of Social Work Award from UNC Wilmington, where she earned her bachelor's degree in social work.

New NVTHS members received their membership pins and certificates from former chapter president Sandra Johnston and chapter advisor Velma Williams.

Other program participants in-

cluded BCC Visiting Artist Jon Thornton, vocalist; Laila Holden, pianist; the Rev. Charles M. Pittman Jr., invocator; BCC President W. Michael Reaves, who gave the welcome; and Kim Jones, NVTHS president, who gave an overview of the society.

In addition to Jones other chapter officers are Karen Thompson, vice chairman; Jan Carlton and Katherine Graham, co-secretaries; and Sherry Montgomery, treasurer.

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## November Weather Stats Were 'Just About Normal'

"Just about normal" weather was documented during November by the National Weather Service Wilmington office, according to its monthly climatological report.

Rainfall totaled 2.58 inches, .53 inches below normal. However, 2.06 inches fell in one day, the 27th, breaking the daily rainfall record of 1.35 inches set in 1921.

The monthly average temperature was 57.6 degrees, which is six-tenths of a degree above normal. The warmest temperature was 86

degrees on the 16th; the lowest was 32 on the 2nd and the 30th.

Temperature records set during November were on the:

- 2nd, when 32 broke the old record of 34 in 1976.

- 14th, when 82 broke the old record of 81 in 1985.

- 15th, when 85 broke the old record of 83 in 1985.

- 16th, when 86 broke the old record of 83 in 1955.

There were ten clear days, seven partly cloudy days and 13 cloudy

days. The sunshine percentage was 57% of the possible for the month.

There was one day with thunder reported, which is normal.

Heavy fog occurred on two days; normal is three days.

The fastest one-minute wind was 25 mph from the southeast on the 27th. The highest wind gust was 32 mph from the southeast.

The highest sea level pressure for the month was 30.65 inches on the 30th, and the lowest was 29.68 inches on the 6th.

## New Year's Eve Celebration Dinner and Dancing

Featuring "The Gentlemen of Swing" & Champagne Toast At Midnight

Seafood Sampler: smoked salmon, shrimp, Alaskan crab, Aegean salad: romaine, endive and iceberg topped with feta, croutons, slivered olives, tomato wedges and pepperoncini  
Entree: Beef Wellington, Duchess Sweet Potatoes, Julienne of vegetables.  
Desserts: Australian apple strudel with hot vanilla sauce, hot banana crepes with pecan rum sauce.

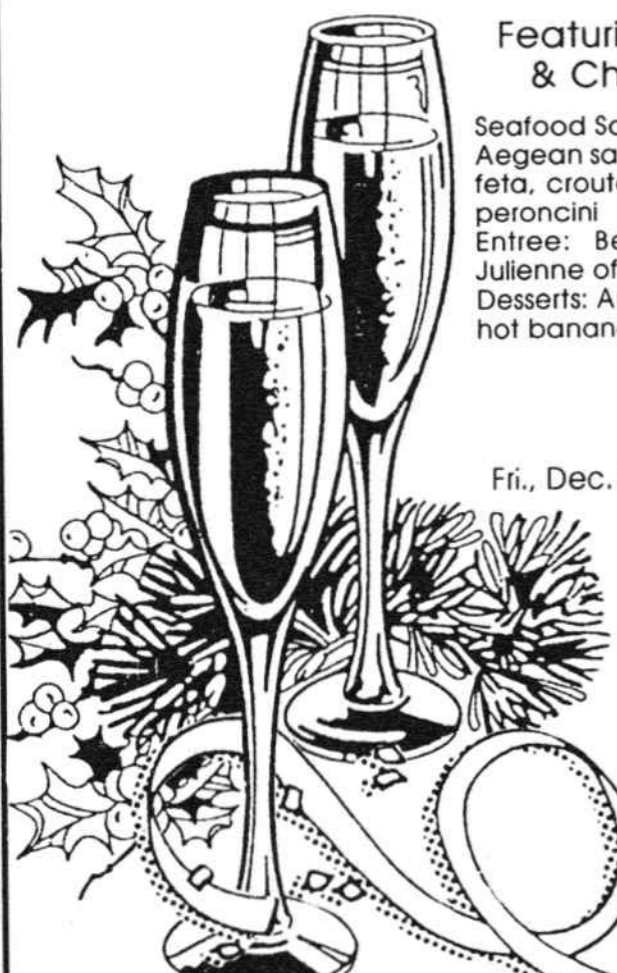
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