

# Holden Beach Approves Plan To Stabilize Dune

BY DOUG RUTTER

Thirty rolls of sand fence, 30,000 sprigs of beach grass and 1,600 pounds of grass seed.

That's what Holden Beach officials plan to use to stabilize the new oceanfront sand dune constructed last week along Hillside Drive.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency will pay for the man-made dune, which cost about \$55,000. Town commissioners voted Monday to spend up to \$10,000 to keep the dune in place and help it grow.

Wayne's Backhoe Service of Shallotte completed construction of the dune on the south side of erosion-threatened Hillside Drive last Friday.

Town Manager Gus Ulrich said 11,420 cubic yards of sand were used to build the dune. Town officials and property owners hope it will prevent the ocean from washing away the street.

To stabilize the compacted sand, the town will use 2,200 feet of sand fence, 30,000 beach grass sprigs and 1,600 pounds of grass seed. A pipe with 32 sprinklers will be used to irrigate the seed.

Commissioners decided to spread two types of grass seed on the dune in addition to the traditional beach grass plantings because this is a marginal time of year to plant beach grass.

"I say let's go that way. We put too much into the dune not to do it,"

Commissioner David Sandifer said at Monday night's board meeting.

The town also will pay to seed the dredge spoil site on the north side of the island where Wayne's Backhoe Service got the sand for the new dune.

Holden Beach Enterprises owns the dredge spoil site and donated the sand to the town in exchange for construction of a dune adjacent to company-owned property.

## Beautification Project

A Holden Beach Beautification Club proposal to dress up the public works garage received approval Monday night from the board of commissioners.

The town board authorized the club to spend up to \$1,340 to erect a decorative board on the east side of the garage featuring a pelican, net and sea shells. The design will be visible from the bridge.

Commissioners agreed the new display would beautify the town, but they want Building Inspector Claude Spellman to see if the estimated cost can be cut from \$1,340.

## Other Business

In other business Monday, commissioners:

Appointed Myra Burke and Len Froehlich as alternate members of the planning and zoning board. Both terms will expire June 30. Jeff Lee and Mel Amos also were nominated for the vacant positions.

Briefly discussed a proposed sedimentation and soil erosion control ordinance. Board members indicated they are interested in limiting erosion of small lots that do not fall under existing state regulations. Ulrich was asked to gather more information.

Approved several minor changes in the town's parking regulations. The revisions will allow parking in the street right of way at Holden Beach Fishing Pier and Campground By The Sea. Other changes affect parking on Deal, Davis, Cole, Jordan, Holden and Hillside streets and Ocean Boulevard.

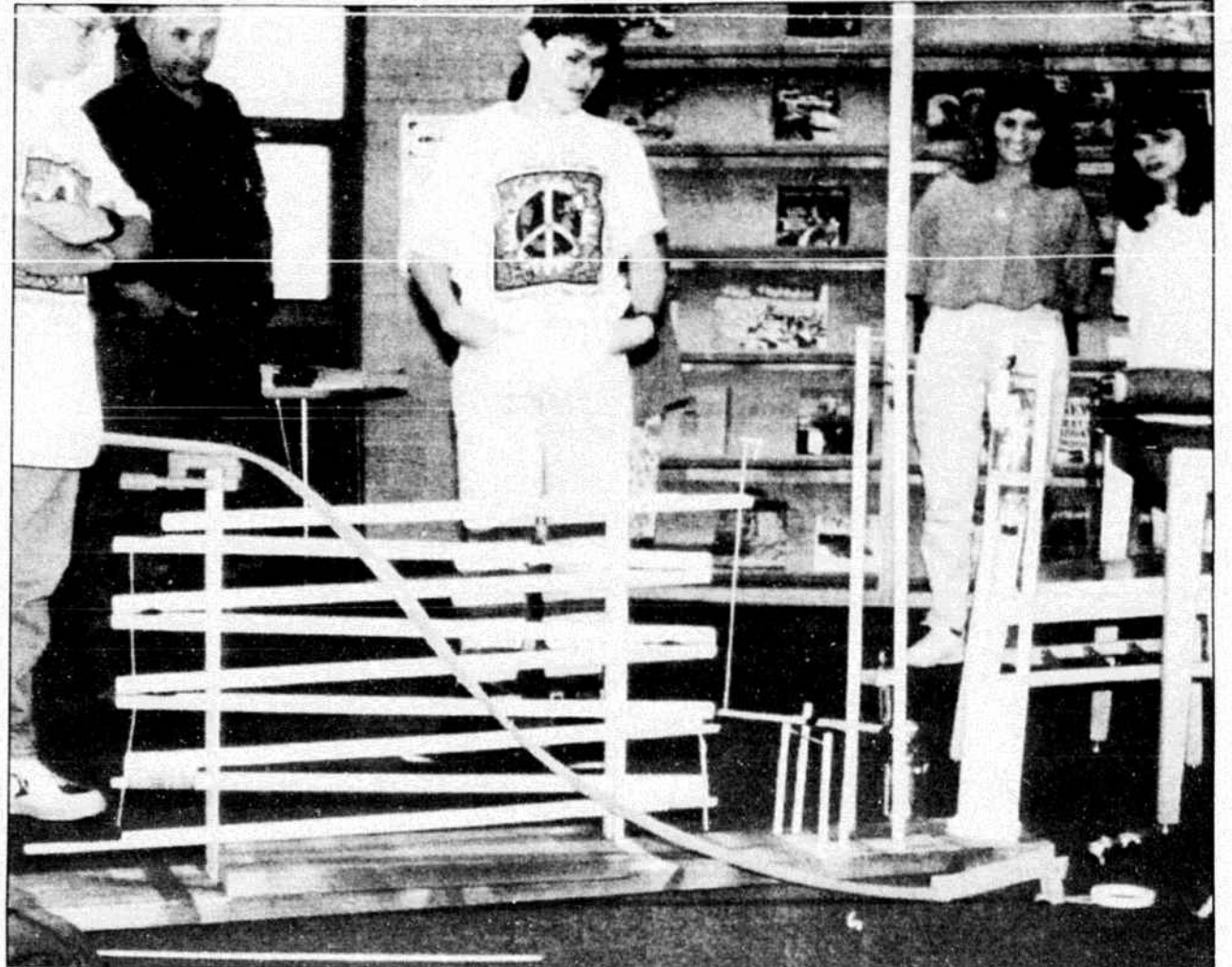
Instructed Ulrich to use his judgment in enforcing the town ordinance that prohibits the uncontrolled growth of noxious weeds and other conditions that create a health or safety hazard on private property. "You need to use reason," said resident John Holden. "There's people who could find fault with Jesus Christ."

## Retreat Planned

Holden Beach Commissioners will hold an all-day retreat next Wednesday, April 13, at Sandpiper Bay Country Club near Calabash.

Town board members plan to leave town hall at 7:30 a.m. and start the meeting around 8 a.m. The meeting is open to the public.

Sandpiper Bay is on Old Georgetown Road between N.C. 904 and N.C. 179 near Calabash.



STAFF PHOTO BY SUSAN USHER

## In State's Top 10

A team of 15 seventh and eighth grade students from Shallotte Middle School placed ninth overall out of 26 middle and junior high school teams entered in the N.C. Science Olympiads last month. Above at a reception given by the school last Friday, students Daniel Richardson and Brian Hall demonstrate a "Rube Goldberg" machine built with the aid of Brian's dad, Tony Hall, also pictured. The device placed sixth in competition. The students worked after school with coaches Darrell Cheers and Harvey Rash to prepare to enter more than a dozen events at the Olympiads. Their participation was underwritten by the school PTA and the Southeast Regional Math and Science Alliance.

# Holden POA Suggests Town Consider Land Purchase

BY DOUG RUTTER

Crawford Hart looks at the property next to Holden Beach's water tower and sees a nice place for a community building where bridge clubs or scout groups could meet.

Hart, president of the Holden Beach Property Owners Association (HBPOA), found plenty of support for his proposal Saturday when the organization gathered for its annual Easter weekend meeting.

All 75 people who packed town hall's meeting room voted in favor of recommending that town commissioners consider purchasing property along the west side of Rothschild Street north of town hall.

The land, owned by the Holden family, is zoned residential. The owners recently asked for the land to be re-zoned commercial, but commissioners denied the request.

Hart said the landowners are finding it difficult to develop or sell the property because nobody wants to live next to the water tank.

The HBPOA voted unanimously in favor of Bob Buck's motion to recommend the town board determine the usefulness of the property in meeting future anticipated needs of the town.

Holden Beach does not own any vacant property near the town hall complex to expand. "This town needs more property," HBPOA director Mel Amos said.

An HBPOA committee studying ways to control growth and density held its first meeting Saturday and plans to meet again following the association's May 21 meeting.

"We are active. We are working," committee member Bob Lineberger said. "We are investigating all the possibilities to help us maintain the type of beach we have now."

Lineberger, a former president of the association, said he wants to preserve Holden Beach's environment

and family atmosphere.

"We think that's the will and desire of the property owner membership and that's what we're working for," he said. "We want to maintain what we have now."

In other business Saturday, the organization voted to donate \$1,000 to Coastline Volunteer Rescue Squad, which requested the money for the purchase of equipment.

Executive Secretary Larry Vogt reported that the POA has \$5,742 in the bank and 590 paid members. Vogt said 249 property owners who were members last year had not paid 1994 dues as of March 31.

Hart suggested that members ask their neighbors to join the organization, which costs \$10 per year. He said it would be good to know if some homeowners have legitimate reasons for not joining.

During his address to HBPOA members, Town Manager Gus Ulrich discussed recent progress with

the underground utilities project, sidewalk construction and dune renourishment on Hillside Drive.

HBPOA's board of directors decided Saturday to hold a meeting three weeks before each regular membership meeting to set an agenda.

The board will get together Saturday, May 7, at 10 a.m. in town hall to prepare for the Memorial Day weekend meeting on May 21.

## Coastline VRS Makes 72 Runs

Coastline Volunteer Rescue Squad made 72 runs during February, reports squad spokesman Sharon Martin.

Fifteen calls were transports and 12 were for mutual aid. Squad members logged 2,419 miles during the month.

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