

OUR TOWN

Southport

The beginning of the new year means a bevy of new public works projects will soon be underway in Southport.

Shortly after the first of the year, the most notable change in Southport will be a new paint job on the city's elevated water tank. City manager Rob Hites said painting contractors moved in their equipment and started scraping the tank last week, but were forced to postpone the effort due to stiff winds and cold conditions.

Residents of Cape Harbor Drive can look for work to begin on that street sometime next week. The Cape Harbor Drive roadway will be completely replaced, as will the sewer lines and water lines beneath it. City officials say the road was poorly constructed when first built and sections have collapsed, damaging utility lines below. Public works officials say traveling Cape Harbor Drive may be difficult for several weeks, but ask the public's indulgence.

And, a substantial drainage improvement project along Willis Drive will begin in early January, Hites noted.

Bald Head Island

Concern about protections for various maritime forest tracts abides with the Coastal Resources Commission. In 1990, a coalition of environmental groups nominated nine areas for designation as areas of environmental concern, and debate and action to protect them commenced.

Last summer the list was down to six, including three in the Bald Head complex. After review by the CRC on December 13, one local area remains under scrutiny -- Bald Head itself. Bluff Island was adjudged adequately protected, as was Middle Island.

A spokesman with the state Division of Coastal Management said Monday that negotiations are proceeding for purchase and protection of a portion of the Bald Head forest using a combination of state and federal funds.

Boiling Spring Lakes

Let's make no mistake about it. Boiling Spring Lakes commissioners will meet on Tuesday, January 7, not on January 2 as previously reported.

At this time no new business is scheduled for discussion; commissioners are scheduled to hear the routine reports usually dealt with at these sessions. But, some things are in the works now that might be reflected at the meeting.

Commissioners have already conducted a workshop on a recently prepared codification of city ordinances. After a public hearing is conducted commissioners will be free to adopt the codified set of ordinances. The codification was prepared by a consulting firm.

Planning board members met Monday night and, it appears, that board may soon have some recommendations for the governing board to consider. The planning board has been considering possible changes to the city's zoning ordinance which would also require a public hearing prior to confirmation.

Later this month, Boiling Spring Lakes residents can expect yet another public hearing on a proposed land use plan update. Under the terms of state law, municipalities in a 20-county region of coastal North Carolina must prepare land use plan updates every five years.

Yaupon Beach

All systems are "go" for a new February 18 board of commissioners election in Yaupon Beach, town clerk Nancy Wilson says. "This is for the election of three commissioners," she said Monday.

The state board of elections last week affirmed the Brunswick County Board of Elections' contention that the November 5 Yaupon Beach election was fatally flawed. On Election Day, 36 persons received ballots with erroneous instructions and the intentions of 23 voters were unclear.

The ballot instructed voters to cast ballots for only two candidates when three seats actually were to be decided.

Elections board members in Brunswick County did not certify the election and four votes separated two candidates.

All declared candidates on the November 5 ballot will appear on the February 18 ballot.

New information passed to the town this week indicates newly enfranchised residents may register to vote in the February 18 election through January 20. It was originally believed only voters eligible to vote November 5 could participate in the election. Residents of Yaupon Beach may register to vote at the county board of elections office only.

Residents may register to vote between now and January 20 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Town Hall will be closed January 1 in observance of the New Year's holiday, Wilson said.

Caswell Beach

OceanGreens subdivision will be the subject of a specially called meeting of the Caswell Beach Planning Board on Tuesday, January 7. The meeting is to begin at 4 p.m.

OceanGreens already is a development of several townhouses lying just east of the Caswell Dunes condominium complex. The existing portion of the development was approved by the town as Phase I of a more comprehensive development plan. Developers plan to submit preliminary plats of Phases II-IV of the development.

Tax collector Linda Bethune said collections for 1991 are being received at a brisk pace. Taxpayers have until January 6 to make property tax payments without penalty.

Long Beach

Long Beach commissioners have scheduled a special meeting Thursday night.

At 6 p.m. the board is to meet with Brunswick County emergency management director Doug Ledgett of Southport.

Among the topics board members are expected to discuss with Ledgett are the anticipated 911 emergency telephone notification system and a proposal to create fire and rescue tax districts in Brunswick County.

Under the terms of a concept approved at referendum in November, at least five fire and rescue tax districts would be established in Brunswick County to support municipal departments financially.

Town manager David Poston said commissioners -- newly elected and incumbent -- wished to "educate themselves" on the several emergency service system proposals now under development. The board is also expected to discuss Long Beach's role in an integrated EMS system and its responsibilities as a secondary command center.

At 7 p.m. Thursday, commissioners will turn their attention to a public sewer system proposal as they talk with consulting engineer Findley Boney of Raleigh. Commissioners hope to establish a timetable of events for the next several months.

Bald Head property

Middle Island tract given to conservancy

By Jim Harper
Staff Writer

Charles D. Young, developer of Middle Island Plantation on Bald Head, has donated 22 acres of maritime forest to the Bald Head Island Conservancy for preservation in a "pristine state".

The tract, including pine and oak uplands as well as cedar-studded margins to the Cape Creek and Bald Head Creek marshes, is natural

'Call it what you want -- maritime forest, wildfowl sanctuary -- everything there is important, from the Spanish moss to the sand crabs, and it'll all be left like it is.'

Charlie Young

habitat to otter and raccoons as well as a variety of wading birds and migrant species.

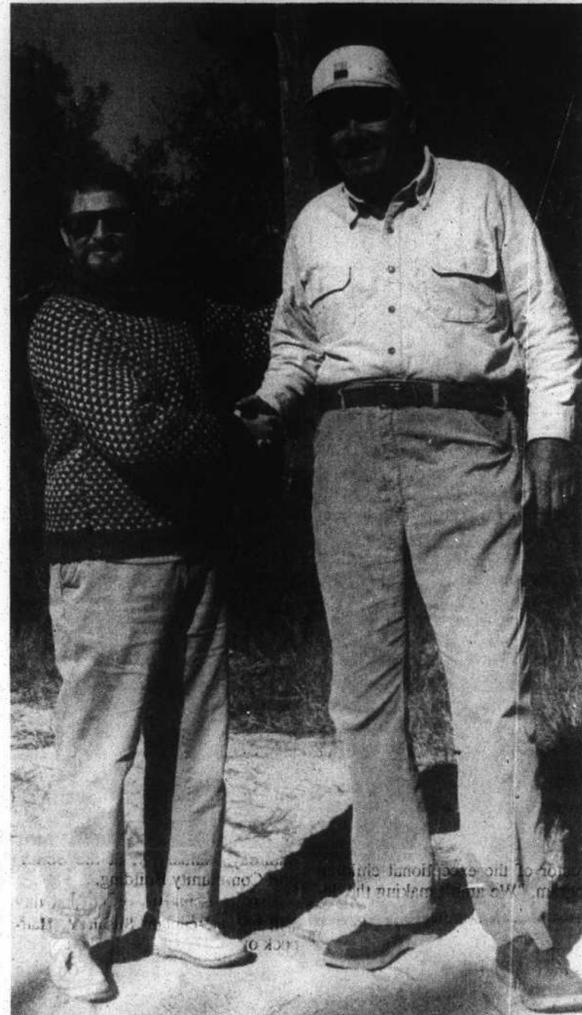
In announcing the gift of land owned by Young Realty since 1978, Young said, "Call it what you want -- maritime forest, wildfowl sanctuary -- everything there is important, from the Spanish moss to the sand crabs, and it'll all be left like it is."

Accepting the land for the conservancy, president Dean Harris said, "This is really very generous of Charlie and Young Realty. He has always cared about the environment. He was very gracious, and very generous."

The Bald Head Island Conservancy, though similar in purpose, is not connected with the North Carolina Nature Conservancy which is negotiating with the Mitchell family for purchase and preservation of a large area of maritime forest in the Bald Head Island development.

The 22 acres at the northwestern tip of Middle Island is a portion of a larger Middle Island tract nominated for protection as an area of environmental concern in 1990.

As part of the study concerning preservation of maritime forests, Young was named to a Maritime Forest Working Group of the Coastal Resources Commission, but he



A deal is struck on Middle Island. Bald Head Island Conservancy president Dean Harris accepts Charles D. Young's gift of 22 acres of woodland -- oaks, palms, pines and cedar -- for preservation under conservancy watchcare.

said Monday that his plans for preservation of a significant portion of his property long preceded that.

"I got involved when the state wanted to protect the maritime forest," Young said, "and when it began to seem like town ordinances were not going to be enough I thought, 'Now is the perfect time to set aside the 22 acres, as we'd always planned to do.'"

A long-time property owner on Bald Head, Young recently retired as president of Young Ford in Charlotte and lives full-time on Middle Island with his wife, Pat.

The 22 acres he has dedicated for preservation can be viewed across Bald Head Creek from Lighthouse Landing and Timbercreek condominiums, as well as from the ferry landing at the marina.

In his gift agreement with the conservancy, Young retained ownership of the roadway as well as his boathouse and dock on Cape Creek. The land which the conservancy accepted "exclusively for non-profit, educational and scientific purposes as a bird, wildlife and maritime forest sanctuary" lies in almost equal proportions on either side of the road, and extends to the end of the upland peninsula.

Harris, president of the 300-member organization, termed the acquisition of land "an important step for the Bald Head Island Conservancy."

"We have been involved in the turtle preservation program and in various other conservation activities," he said. "We have leased the nature walk from Bald Head Island Management and developed that. And now we are taking a big step in receiving a gift of land to be kept as a sanctuary."

Arrest follows break-in

Two civilians on Christmas Eve detained a Long Beach man whom they believed had broken into the Southport office of Dr. T. Boyd Cole, an ear, nose and throat specialist.

Because of their intervention, Southport police were able to recover an amount of prescription drugs the man allegedly attempted to remove from the physician's office in the Town Gate Shopping Center.

Police chief Bob Gray said department dispatchers received a call about 6:40 p.m. from an employee of the Southport ABC store, alerting police to the possible break-in at Cole's office. Customers of the ABC store noticed the break-in attempt, Gray said.

When police patrolmen Lee Smith and Willy Richardson arrived at Cole's office, Chuck Lee and Valentino Tucker had detained the suspect, the chief said.

"When the suspect saw the patrol car arrive -- which was about a minute later -- he attempted to run and escape," Gray said. "He was apprehended by the responding officers."

Arrested at the scene was Jimmy Roland Hearn, 38, of 102-3rd Street NE, Long Beach. He was charged with felonious breaking and entering and larceny and with possession of burglary tools.

Gray said the larceny charge against Hearn covered his alleged drug possession after the breaking and entering.

"He's not charged with drug violations," Gray said, though drugs were recovered from his person. "Pursuant to breaking and entering, the larceny charge alleges the taking of drugs."

Gray said results of an investigation into the breaking and entering at Cole's office showed two attempts to get into the building.

"Investigation shows initial entry was attempted through prying the back door," Gray said. "Meeting with no success, a tire tool was used to take out the front door -- and I mean 'take out' the front door."

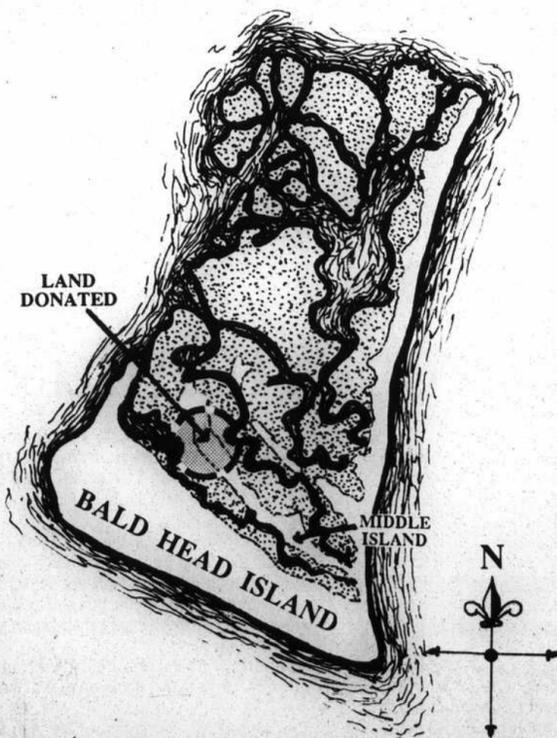
Several boxes of sample prescription drugs were recovered at the scene.

Hearn was placed on \$5,000 bond by magistrate Cheryl Hughes.

Tide table

HIGH	THURSDAY, JANUARY 2	LOW
6:06 a.m.		12:14 a.m.
6:14 p.m.		----- p.m.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 3		
6:52 a.m.		12:15 a.m.
6:56 p.m.		12:57 p.m.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 4		
7:33 a.m.		1:00 a.m.
7:37 p.m.		1:38 p.m.
SUNDAY, JANUARY 5		
8:10 a.m.		1:39 a.m.
8:14 p.m.		2:14 p.m.
MONDAY, JANUARY 6		
8:47 a.m.		2:18 a.m.
8:50 p.m.		2:55 p.m.
TUESDAY, JANUARY 7		
9:20 a.m.		2:57 a.m.
9:25 p.m.		3:30 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8		
9:51 a.m.		3:32 a.m.
9:59 p.m.		4:07 p.m.

The following adjustments should be made:
Bald Head Island, high -10, low -7; Caswell Beach, high -5, low -1; Southport, high +7, low +15; Yaupon Beach, high -32, low -45; Lockwood Folly, high -22, low -8.



The circle indicates the 22-acre site on Middle Island that Charles D. Young gave to the Bald Head Island Conservancy for preservation as a maritime forest and bird and wildlife sanctuary.

CP&L to conduct siren test

Residents of southeastern Brunswick County may hear sirens in the ten-mile area around Carolina Power & Light Co.'s Brunswick nuclear plant on January 7-9.

Since CP&L tests the sirens individually, there is no specific time during this period when residents could expect to hear the sirens.

CP&L will test each siren at low volume. This will sound like a "growl" and will last only a few seconds. Residents may not hear the sirens unless they are very close to a siren when it is tested. These tests are not intended to check the volume, but to make sure each siren works.

CP&L conducts a silent test every two weeks, and conducts the "growl" tests every three months. CP&L conducts a full-volume test once a year.

The rotating sirens are mounted on tall poles at 34 locations within ten miles of the Brunswick plant.

The sounding of the sirens does not mean the public should evacuate. In the event of an emergency at the Brunswick plant, the sirens would alert the public to listen to radio and television for information and instructions from the Emergency Broadcast System.