

# Golf Carts Dumped Along Waterway

BY SUSAN USHER

Debris from a fire at Oyster Bay Golf Course must be removed from a dumping ground overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway near the Sunset Beach Bridge and Jinks Creek.

After investigating the site Monday, county officials advised the owner of the property, Ed Gore, and golf course officials that the materials must be relocated and disposed of properly because of the proximity of the dump site to the watercourses. The dumping was in violation of a state ordinance.

Brunswick County Litter Control Officer Martha Britt said the rubble included burned golf carts destroyed in the July 19 fire that leveled the clubhouse at Oyster Bay.

Gore, chairman of the Brunswick County Planning Board, said he was contacted by Brunswick County Planning Director John Harvey about the dumping.

He said he had given Danny Young, whose family operates the golf course, permission to haul the debris to the vacant lot behind Twin Lakes Restaurant.

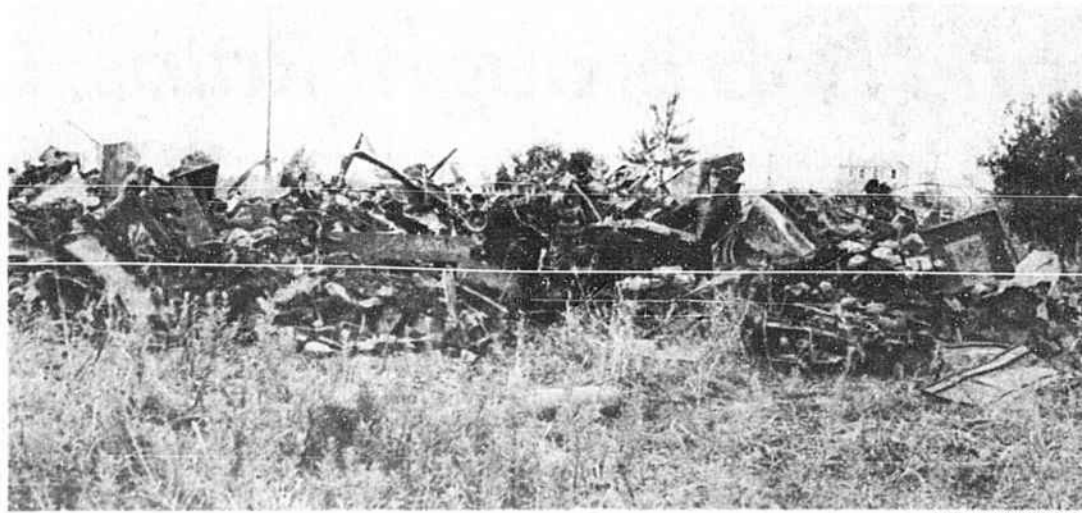
"It was golf cart frames. The rubber was burned off. I assumed it was all right to put it down there and either dig a trench and push it in it or cover over it.

"But since it hasn't been done it won't be done. They're supposed to dispose of it however the county tells them too."

County officials have been in contact with Young and Officer Britt said she expected the site to be cleaned up this week.

"It needs to go to the landfill," she said.

During the clubhouse fire, acid from exploding golf cart batteries contributed to noxious fumes that temporarily overcame several firefighters.



DEBRIS from a July 19 fire that leveled the Oyster Bay Golf Clubhouse was hauled to a site overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway for burial, but will be relocated to the county landfill following an investigation this week.

# No Leads In Murder Case

Investigators are still searching for a suspect in the murder of a Winnabow man found near his home July 12, but so far with little success, reported Chief of Detectives Phil Perry of the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department.

Matthew Donald Spaulding, 51, was found in a horse barn around 11:30 a.m. on July 12 by a family member near his home at Route 1, Winnabow. Spaulding had received multiple gunshot and stab wounds and had been dead about four hours when the body was found.

"We're still working on it," Perry said Monday. "We have no additional leads at this time."

Perry said results of an autopsy and ballistics report have not yet been received by the department. They should provide some long-range clues into the murder, he added.

"But as far as being any closer to the person who did it, no, we are not," Perry added.

Spaulding had been shot with a small-caliber weapon at least several times in the body and possibly once in the head. He also had shallow stab wounds in the collarbone area of both shoulders that appeared to have been made with a small, rounded object, rather than a knife, the sheriff's department reported.

State Bureau of Investigation agents are also investigating the murder along with the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department.

# Brunswick Tech Bond Vote Tentatively Set

A referendum on the proposed issuance of \$8 million in county general obligation bonds for Brunswick Technical College construction has tentatively been scheduled Nov. 19.

The date is subject to approval of the Local Government Commission and the State Board of Elections, said Larry Andrews, chairman of the Brunswick County Board of Elections.

Board members met Tuesday morning to consider the referendum, which would be the first since voters approved \$37 million in general obligation bonds for the county water system on Aug. 4, 1981.

County Attorney David Clegg said the Local Government Commission would review the county's indebtedness to determine if it could handle the additional debt load.

Indebtedness is limited to a small percentage of the county's tax base, which is currently an estimated \$2.15 billion.

"We're well below the limit," said Clegg. "There shouldn't be any problem getting it approved."

County commissioners had forwarded to the elections board a request from the Brunswick Technical College Board of Trustees to schedule a referendum as quickly as possible.

Both the county commissioners and Rep. David Redwine had recommended the referendum as the best means of financing the college's long-range construction program.

General obligation bonds are backed by the county's ability to levy property taxes.

# Final Two Teenagers Get 14-Year Sentences

Two teenagers who pleaded guilty in May to robbery with a dangerous weapon involving a Thomasboro minister were sentenced to 14 years in prison last Wednesday in Brunswick County Superior Court.

The two Stateville youths were among five teenagers who were charged with the June 1984 armed robbery of Freeman Gause, a Thomasboro minister and principal of Union Primary School. Three other teenagers who also pleaded guilty to the robbery in May each received 14-year sentences last Monday in Superior Court.

Nathan B. Mayberry, 17, of Statesville, and Ronnie Dale Wagner, 17, also of Statesville, each pleaded guilty to charges filed by the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department. In a plea bargain agreement with the district attorney's office, charges of felonious breaking and entering and larceny and another count of felonious breaking and

entering were dismissed against each youth in exchange for a guilty plea for robbery.

Under state law, armed robbery carries a mandatory sentence of 14 years in prison. Judge Preston Cornelius sentenced both Mayberry and Wagner as Committed Youthful Offenders, making them immediately eligible for parole.

Judge Cornelius also ordered that both receive alcohol and drug abuse counseling and vocational education training while imprisoned.

According to the sheriff's department's report of the robbery, Gause was outside his home on U.S. 17 washing his car when he heard his doorbell ring. After calling out to the visitors, Gause was approached by the suspects at gunpoint and forced to go inside, where his hands were tied behind his back and his home was ransacked.

Over \$1,100 in valuables were taken from Gause's home. The suspects were arrested in Myrtle Beach, S.C., the following day.

## Shark Tournney

(Continued From Page 1-A)

On Friday morning, the second day of fishing, various arts and crafts booths will be set up along the waterfront and will be in place again Saturday, Watkins said. Following the final weigh-in Saturday at 2 p.m., a chicken and shark meat dinner will be served on the waterfront.

Saturday night, the tournament will conclude with a dance on the waterfront featuring the Greensboro band, "Midnight." An admission will be charged. In case of rain, the dance will be moved to the Shallotte National Guard Armory.

# Fraud Investigations Reported

(Continued From Page 1-A)

Fraud investigator Wayne Campbell reported on his first weeks on the job, with Chairman Rabon saying he "really appreciated" the detailed written report. Campbell said he sent 23 letters between July 8 and 26 to clients with overdue accounts of \$19,477. He got 12 responses, working out repayment schedules with eight clients, two accounts paid in full, and two accounts found already cleared. Under one court-modified judgment, a client no longer has to pay \$70 per month, but the balance on the account must be paid in full by November 30, 1988.

He also is continuing four of six new fraud investigations and attended two workshops.

### Other Business

In other business, board members: • Heard reports of legislative action that affect the local agency's budget, including increases in AFDC, foster

home and domiciliary care benefits and an expansion of AFDC benefits to include women in their sixth months of pregnancy or more. State funds for the program may increase, said Supervisor Lillie Barnes, but the agency may also have to seek additional funds from the county at some point.

• Approved a policy for the chore services waiting list. Clients must be denied services if the agency knows it cannot serve them within three months. Then their names can be placed on a prioritized waiting list, but must reapply to stay on the list more than a year.

Services Supervisor Evelyn Johnson said that instead of cutting a large number of clients off chore services because of a reduced budget, hours of service were reduced for most clients. Only 19 had to be cut off from the program. The maximum hours of help received now is 10

hours, with an average of three to six hours per week.

• Heard from Food Stamp Supervisor Sandy Jackson of her efforts to obtain a refrigerated truck to ease handling and storage problems when the next USDA commodities distribution begins. Along with butter and cheese, she hopes to have available rice and flour and/or honey and milk.

• Asked Ms. Green to check with the county manager and county attorney if need be on the agency's status under a new federal court ruling regarding compensatory time off. Social workers are given time off instead of pay after serving on call. Under the ruling, the agency may have to pay overtime. Ms. Green and Ms. Johnson had advised that the state has said it will begin monitoring in October for whatever it decides is meant by compliance.

# Significant Rainfall Recorded

Rain fell in Brunswick County last week, 4.46 inches of it, according to Shallotte Point meteorologist Jackson Canady's rain gauge.

"About half of that was the direct influence of the passage of (Hurricane) Bob," said Canady. "I'm sure other parts of the county may have received slightly more rain."

The area should experience near-normal rainfall and temperatures during the upcoming period.

Canady said this means lows in the

70s at night reaching near 90 during the daytime, with about three-quarters of an inch of rain.

For the period July 23-29, temperatures averaged 78 degrees, about two degrees below normal.

A maximum daily high of 88 degrees was recorded on the 27th, with the minimum low of 68 degrees occurring on the 23rd.

The average daily high was 84 degrees and the average nightly low, 73 degrees.

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