

Coastal Towns Literally Are Going 'On The Map'

BY DOUG RUTTER

Ocean Isle Beach has literally hit the map, and Sunset Beach and Bald Head Village should not be far behind.

Brunswick County's unspoiled beaches may not receive the praise and attention they deserve. However, at least the simple fact of their existence will no longer go unrecognized thanks to a joint effort by the South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce and the Brunswick County Planning Department.

Anne Marie Schettini, executive director for the chamber, said Ocean Isle Beach was included this year for the first time on road atlases published by Rand McNally and Company and the Automotive Association of America (AAA).

She said the town of Sunset Beach will be included on the 1989 editions, but couldn't comment on Bald Head Island, which is served by the Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce.

"We wanted these towns on the maps because people were having trouble finding them," she said. "People were coming into our office and asking for directions to Sunset Beach."

Ms. Schettini said census figures are used when

putting maps together, and the U.S. Census Bureau did not have up-to-date figures on Ocean Isle Beach and Sunset Beach.

"These towns have grown a lot recently, and the census figures were not up to date. That is why there are towns like Grissetown and Longwood on the maps," she added. "They were once the population centers in the area."

Don Eggert, a county planner, said he first wrote to Rand McNally in April to inquire why the beach communities weren't on the map.

Like Schettini, he attributed their absence to outdated census figures.

"These are now very popular tourist attractions and they need to be on the map. It helps the area to grow when people know what you have to offer," he said.

Eggert said the towns of Sunset Beach and Bald Head Village should both be included on the 1989 maps, although they may not be included in the index. He said minimum population requirements are used for the index, and these towns may not meet those standards.

Meanwhile, residents of rural Grissetown and Longwood needn't worry. Their communities are still on the map.

South Brunswick Station Said Still Two Years Off

BY DOUG RUTTER

The South Brunswick Island station of the Shallotte Post Office may have its site determined by October, "if everything goes well," a post office official said Friday.

The site selection has been going on since April 15 when the postal service began accepting offers from local property owners. According to the communications manager for the Columbia, S.C., postal division, Art Shealy, the offers are still coming in.

He said the offers are made by individual land owners, and unlike formal bids, are negotiable.

The office will serve the towns of Calabash, Sunset Beach and Ocean Isle Beach, with each retaining its own mailing address and current zip code.

Shealy said the site may be determined by October if the site selection committee chooses a property with an owner who is willing to negotiate.

If contract terms cannot be reached with the committee's first choice, Shealy said the committee goes "back to square one."

Shealy had announced in early June that the site selection committee was nearing a decision concern-

ing the preferred site, but said Friday that the committee had to re-evaluate the offers before starting negotiations.

The postal service had established the preferred area earlier this year between Gause Landing at Ocean Isle Beach and Calabash and extending southerly towards the Atlantic Ocean.

He said after a site has been chosen and negotiated with the land owner, the deal will have to be approved by the Regional Council of the U.S. Postal Service in Philadelphia.

The Regional Council will "deter-

mine whether the entire package is in the best interest of the postal service and if all legalities are in order," said Shealy.

Following approval from the Regional Council, the postal service will advertise for bids to construct the 13,000-square-foot post office.

Bids will be accepted for three to four months, after which time the contract will be awarded and construction will begin, Shealy said.

"The actual construction should take about a year," Shealy said, "so we are still talking about two more years before it can open."

The postal service is searching for a plot of land approximately 140,000 square feet, or just over three acres, to house the Shallotte branch office.

County, Towns Receive Checks Worth \$464,837

Brunswick County and its 14 municipalities will share \$464,837 in intangible personal property tax collections and special allocations this year.

Distribution checks were mailed by the N.C. Department of Revenue on Aug. 27.

Of the total distributions, \$299,211 represented the county's net collections of property tax levied against the value of intangible personal property. These include accounts receivable, \$61,886; notes, bonds and evidences of debt, \$88,687; shares of stock and units of investment funds, \$140,000; and beneficial interest in foreign trusts, \$2,117; as well as penalties and interest of \$6,518.

Another \$175,763 represented special allocations authorized by the 1985 General Assembly to reimburse local governments for revenue lost when intangibles tax on bank deposits and money on hand was repealed.

Distributions were made to the county and to its 14 municipalities in proportion to the amount of ad valorem taxes levied by each.

Of the total distributions, the lion's share—\$389,058—went to the county, with municipalities sharing the remainder of \$75,779.

Receiving the least was Belville, with \$61.36, and receiving the most was Long Beach, with \$26,701.

Brunswick County	\$389,059
Long Beach	26,701
Ocean Isle Beach	10,020
Southport	8,480
Bald Head Island	6,789
Holden Beach	4,934
Shallotte	4,885
Sunset Beach	3,790
Boiling Spring Lakes	3,425
Yaupon Beach	2,969
Caswell Beach	2,089
Navassa	731
Calabash	609
Bolivia	275
Belville	61

FIFTEEN LOCAL GOVERNMENT offices in Brunswick County received intangible tax distribution checks this week ranging in amount from \$61.36 to \$389,058.65.

Sunset Beach Plans Labor Day Meeting

The Sunset Beach Taxpayers Association will hold its Labor Day meeting at the Sunset Beach fire station Sept. 5 at 10 a.m.

Various items concerning the residents of Sunset Beach will be discussed including the new bridge and parking problems.

Bill Hunt will host a picnic for the membership at his Main Street home at 2 p.m.

Bus Driver Class Held This Week

The North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles is sponsoring a school bus driver's classroom session on Sept. 3 and 4 at 8:30 a.m. in the Shallotte Middle School multipurpose room.

Vicki Jenrette of the School Bus and Traffic Safety Department said those interested in becoming bus drivers this year must attend both days and bring a valid North Carolina driver's license.

Terminal Adds Wednesday Sales

The Military Ocean Terminal at Sunny Point near Southport will hold a residue scrap lumber and decorative wood chip sale each Wednesday starting Sept. 9, with hours from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Cost will be \$1 per pickup truck load, said Myrtle D. Meade, public affairs officer.

These sales are in addition to the regular Monday sales of lumber, when the price of wood is \$10 per cord.

State To Hear Cookery Case

BY RAHN ADAMS

Olde Brunswick Towne Cookery Ltd. could avoid a \$20,000 penalty by cleaning up its waste treatment facility.

Representatives of the Belville business are scheduled to appear before the Environmental Management Commission (EMC) Sept. 10 to review a special consent order that would require the business to correct its waste treatment problems.

Last December, the state notified Olde Brunswick Towne Cookery and its owner, V.A. Creech Jr., that a \$20,669.30 civil penalty was being assessed against the business due to waste treatment violations.

According to the EMC, the violations included failing to meet effluent limitations on 36 occasions; failing to submit monthly self-monitoring reports seven times; and failing to properly operate and maintain the cookery's waste treatment facility.

In response to a January remission request by the business, Paul Wilms, director of the Division of Environmental Management, found no grounds to modify his division's assessment against the cookery.

But the Environmental Manage-

ment Commission decided in July to reduce the civil penalty upon satisfaction of certain conditions, mainly that the firm agree to bring waste treatment facilities in compliance within a specified timetable in keeping with a special order of consent.

According to Bryson Jenkins, public information officer with the

Division of Environmental Management, the cookery's penalty would be reduced to \$69.30—cost of the state's investigation.

Ms. Jenkins said Olde Brunswick Towne Cookery representatives are scheduled to appear before the commission on Sept. 10, apparently to discuss provisions of the special order of consent.

County Water Taps Offered

BY RAHN ADAMS

Officials say tap applications for two new sections of Brunswick County's water system are moving steadily, although the past six months have seen a jump in system-wide applications.

On Aug. 20 the county water department began advertising that tap applications are being accepted from residents on U.S. 17 from Lanvale Road to Shallotte and on NC 87 from Bell Swamp to NC 211.

Those sections of the county water system officially came on-line July 1.

According to Elizabeth Norris with the water system department, approximately 25 tap applications for the two sections have been filed since service was offered two months ago.

Ms. Norris said about 20 of the new taps are located on U.S. 17, while five are on the N.C. 87 section.

Over the entire system, though, tap applications have been on the rise, according to Lynnne Haas, water system administrative assistant.

"We have had a steady increase over the past six months with the new subdivisions and new (water) lines," said Ms. Haas.

For example, 18 tap applications were filed in February, while 70 were recorded in June, Ms. Haas said.

Until Nov. 1, new customers in the U.S. 17 and N.C. 87 sections will receive a \$125 tap fee reduction. The regular tap fee is \$400.

Brunswick County commissioners earlier approved the four-month fee reduction for residential customers tapping any new line dedicated to the county water system.

According to Ms. Haas, the only other new line where the reduction still applies is at Tarheel Acres off N.C. 179 near Seaside; the tap fee reduction there is in effect until Oct. 1.

The water system also requires a \$25 deposit.

Applications are received at the Brunswick County Water System Department office at the county complex in Bolivia.

According to Ms. Norris, residents generally have a two-week to three-week wait after they apply for a water tap, although installation periods vary depending on where the tap is located.

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