

Tax Collector Expects Last Minute Rush As Jan. 5 Tax Deadline Nears

BY RAHN ADAMS
With the deadline for paying 1987 property taxes right around the corner, Brunswick County Tax Collector Nancy Moore says she expects her office to be filled with taxpayers today (Thursday) through Tuesday. Jan. 5 is the deadline to pay property taxes. After the deadline, interest will be added each month to overdue bills, and delinquent taxpayers will

run the risk of foreclosure. "It (payment of taxes) has been pretty steady," Ms. Moore said. "We haven't had a real mad rush yet... but we are anticipating the lobby to be filled with people." Noting that the tax office will be closed Friday for the New Year's holiday, she said she expects to see the most taxpayers today and Tuesday.

Also, she reminded taxpayers who pay at the tax office to bring the entire tax bill they were mailed, so that the stub can be validated and used as a receipt. Ms. Moore said she also expects tax payments by mail to increase. The tax office already is receiving two mail trays of tax payments each day, she said. In October, approximately 85,000 tax bills were mailed to Brunswick

County property owners for taxes they filed in January. The 1987 total county tax levy is \$19,831,189.48. According to Ms. Moore, her office collected \$2,369,394.88 in taxes through November. "The bulk of our collections will come this week and next week," she said Tuesday. "I do anticipate that around 90 percent will be collected by the 5th."

Ms. Moore said a two-percent interest charge will be added to overdue tax bills for the month of January. For each additional month that the bills aren't paid, three-quarters of a percent interest will be added, she said. In early April, the tax office normally advertises delinquent taxes in local newspapers, Ms. Moore said. She added that delinquent tax-

payers will be risking tax foreclosure on their property, although the tax office now is still working on 1983 and 1984 foreclosures. "We've been running a couple of years behind as far as foreclosures are concerned, but we've been catching up," Ms. Moore said. The tax office could begin working on 1987 foreclosures in the coming year, she said.



SHALLOTTE POSTAL EMPLOYEE Kathleen Henderson posts a notice that the office will be closed for two successive Saturdays, Dec. 26 and Jan. 2, due to federal deficit reduction efforts. The \$1.25 billion in cutbacks will not only close all post offices in the country on Saturday, but also cause delay or cancellation of building/expansion projects.

Post Office Cutbacks Felt

(Continued From Page 1-A)
change and that their individual contracts would not be broken. Part-time and temporary employees, which make up approximately 10 percent of the national postal service force, may work fewer hours as the service meets its operational cutback requirements. Shealy added that although the Col-

umbia, S.C., division is one of 74 in the nation, the cuts would not be proportionate. He said the postal service would be more likely to continue capital projects in larger metropolitan areas such as Dallas, Chicago and Washington than it would in Brunswick County.

Clerk To Hear Motion

(Continued From Page 1-A)
to reverse the 1976 action which "purportedly" dissolved the district, appoint three drainage district commissioners, and take any other necessary action to reactivate the district, she said. The county's position is based on an opinion issued in June by the N.C. Attorney General's office which stated that "the purported dissolution was ineffective." "It (the hearing) won't be a public forum where everyone can stand up and air their opinions," Ms. Morgan explained. "It'll be an opportunity for legal arguments to be made on the motion." The hearing will be held at the county courthouse, either in the clerk of court's office or in a courtroom, she said. At a Nov. 6 public hearing in Calabash, residents of the area in

and around the drainage district unanimously supported its reactivation. Commissioners told their action would be taken by the first of the year. After commissioners voted Dec. 2 to "petition" the clerk of court's office, Ms. Morgan speculated that she would have to serve all property owners in the drainage district with copies of the petition before further action could be taken. However, she said Tuesday that the motion filed by Clegg is not a new petition that would require notification of the property owners, since the county maintains that the district was never officially dissolved. "It's not a new matter before the court," she explained. "It's just a motion in an old established case." The drainage district—officially called Brunswick County Drainage District No. 1—was first established in 1959. Its more than 16 miles of now overgrown, neglected canals were initially meant to drain approximately 40,000 acres of southwestern Brunswick County farmland. But flooding caused by poor drainage now also affects residential and resort property in the rapidly-developing area.

Ocean Isle Commissioners Address Parking

BY DOUG RUTTER
Tourists who have become accustomed to parking in front yards or on sidewalks at Ocean Isle Beach may have to change their habits when they flock to the beach this summer. Ocean Isle Commissioners decided Monday that it's time to clamp down on such parking practices—and possibly to give ticketing power to the police department. Commissioners also met in executive session for about an hour Monday to discuss "four or five legal matters" with town attorney Elva Jess. Mayor Betty Williamson said no action was taken. In describing one of the main parking problems on the island, Commissioner Debbie Fox said, "Right now, if someone parked up on the sidewalk, we don't have any ordinance by which the police can make them move."

Commissioners informally agreed that some type of town board action giving power to the police department to control parking was a major priority before the start of another tourist season. In considering possible parking improvements, Councilman Terry Barbee, who also acts as fire chief, said 2nd and 3rd streets near the fire house need to be closed to public parking to provide room for emergency vehicles. He said that with the addition of Ocean Isle Inn on 3rd Street, owned by Councilman Ed Steele, fire trucks and police cars may have an even more difficult time of getting to the main roads. Steele questioned the sudden interest in establishing a "no parking zone."

He said the traffic on 2nd and 3rd streets has been the same for the last 15 years and that the timing of the request was all wrong with his hotel going up. Steele said his project included a parking lot for customers and employees and that they should not block the right-of-way. "It looks like you're just picking on one place because it's a hotel," he told fellow commissioners. "It looks like a personal thing." In support of island-wide parking improvements, Steele recommended that the town review the zoning laws and address all parking problems at the same time. Mayor Williamson, who agreed that all parking problems should eventually be considered, said the situation on 2nd and 3rd streets was different in that it involved emergency vehicles. "This is a unique situation. I think you have to deal with it on that basis." She added that once the new town complex is constructed between 2nd and 3rd streets, the traffic flow will increase five times what it is now. Concerning another parking problem, Ms. Fox said many property

SECRET SESSION YIELDS NO ACTION

Bolivia Man Charged In Holden Beach Assault

owners at the east end of the island had voiced concern that their front yards were being used as public lots. She said closing the last few hundred feet of 1st, 2nd and 3rd streets to parking would solve the problem if police had the power to ticket violators. Dredging Discussed Also Monday, commissioners discussed briefly the procedure for proposed dredging of four or five

natural canals directly east of N.C. 904. According to Ms. Fox, many residents have requested the dredging and have verbally agreed that they would pay assessments equaling the full cost of the project. She said they have not yet filed a petition with the town. The proposed dredging could include four canals bounded by Laurin-

burg, Monroe, Fairmont, Wilmington and Concord streets. It may also include part of the canal directly behind town hall, which serves Ocean Isle Marina. Concerning the procedure for assessments, Ms. Jess told commissioners that it would follow a pattern very much the same as that for the sewer system assessments, "which is not a simple process," she explained. She said she would have the first step in the procedure, which will likely be a preliminary assessment resolution, prepared for the Jan. 12 meeting. Commissioner Virginia Gibson was the only member absent Monday.

Cooler And Drier Weather Expected

A Bolivia man was arrested last week following an assault in Holden Beach that sent a Florida man to the hospital. Arrested was Russell Dean Gainey Jr., 23, of N.C. 211, according to the Brunswick County Clerk of Court's office. Following his arrest by Holden Beach police, Gainey was charged with assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury. Holden Beach Patrolman Gary Dancy said Monday that the incident occurred last Wednesday around 9:45

p.m. at the victim's residence on Halstead Street. Dancy identified the victim as John Michael King of Florida. An arrest warrant on file at the clerk of court's office stated that Gainey allegedly struck King across the forehead with a three-foot length of metal plumbing pipe, knocking the victim unconscious. King was listed in stable condition Monday at New Hanover Memorial Hospital in Wilmington, Dancy said. Gainey was released from custody on a \$10,000 unsecured bond, with his first appearance set for Jan. 5 in Brunswick County District Criminal Court. Dancy said Monday the incident was still under investigation.

Other Business
In other business, commissioners: •Requested that Jess meet with the planning and zoning board to draft regulations concerning the paving of residential lots. At the regular Dec. 8 meeting, commissioners imposed a 60-day moratorium on the excess paving of residential lots in an attempt to help reduce the strain on the street drainage system. •Asked Jess to finalize specifications and advertise for bids for construction of the new town hall complex. •Heard from Jess that based on N.C. League of Municipalities safety guidelines in dealing with hazardous substances, the town's sewer plant should implement stricter operational guidelines. •Asked Jess to adjust a lease agreement between the town and Odell Williamson for land to be used to house a new maintenance shed.

Mary Key COSMETICS
842-5564
Cecilia McVey
Passeport Boutique Jewelry
HOLDEN BEACH ROAD

AUDIO ACCESSORIES
• CD & Cassette Tape Storage Systems
• Cleaning Systems
Great Selections of Compact Discs
\$10.49-\$15.49
(*We Special Order)
FLIP SIDE RECORDS, INC.
754-7555
Twin Creek Plaza, Shallotte

SHALLOTTE CLEANERS
MONDAY-FRIDAY 7-6
SATURDAY 8-1
754-4435
DOWNTOWN SHALLOTTE

HEALTH INSURANCE
to help pay hospital surgical bills
DWIGHT FLANAGAN
754-9923
Jct. Hwys. 17 & 211
PO Box 78
Supply NC 28462

Warm hearth, warm home.
New Burlington Cathedral
Aristokraft
The warmth of new Burlington Cathedral...
HAPPY NEW YEAR
Large inventory of cabinets in stock. Come and see our display of cabinets and vanities.
SEA COAST TRADING CO.
SHALLOTTE • 754-6630

CARQUEST AMERICAN & IMPORT PARTS & ACCESSORIES
• PAINT • SUPPLIES • EQUIPMENT
• CUSTOM MADE HYDRAULIC HOSE FITTINGS & REPAIRS
• BRAKE DRUMS & ROTORS TURNED
REFINISH
Bobby's AUTO PARTS
MAIN ST • SHALLOTTE • 754-6619

THE BRUNSWICK BEACON
Established Nov. 1, 1962
Telephone 754-6890
Published Every Thursday
At Main Street
Shallotte, N. C. 28459
SUBSCRIPTION RATES IN BRUNSWICK COUNTY
One Year \$7.50
Six Months \$4.00
ELSEWHERE IN NORTH CAROLINA
One Year \$10.00
Six Months \$6.00
ELSEWHERE IN U.S.A.
One Year \$12.50
Six Months \$7.00
Second class postage paid at the Post Office in Shallotte, N. C. 28459. USPS 777-780.

Thursday and Saturday Only
EXTRA 20% OFF
OUR SALE PRICE ON FALL & WINTER MERCHANDISE
Closed Friday, New Year's Day
— Men's —
Jeans
Shirts
Sweaters
Dress & Casual Pants
Sportcoats & Jackets
— Ladies' —
Blouses — Sweaters
Skirts — Slacks — Dresses
Jeans — Assortment of Gowns
— Shoes —
Ladies', Men's and Children's
TAKE AN EXTRA 20% OFF SALE PRICE
Kirby's
DEPARTMENT STORE
and BEN FRANKLIN
Downtown Shallotte • 754-4846
Plenty of Free Parking
1987 THE BRUNSWICK BEACON