

# Relocation Of Power Lines Set To Begin At Holden Beach

BY DOUG RUTTER

Work will begin next week on the initial phase of what is expected to be a five-year effort to bury all power lines on Holden Beach.

Letters explaining the project and providing cost figures were mailed last Friday to property owners in phase one, said Interim Town Administrator Les Roark. The first section includes Rothschild and High Point streets between Ocean Boulevard and Brunswick Avenue and Ocean Boulevard West between Rothschild and High Point.

According to the letter, work is expected to begin near the intersection of High Point Street and Brunswick Avenue and proceed south to Ocean Boulevard West, east on Ocean Boulevard West to Rothschild Street and north on Rothschild Street to

Brunswick Avenue.

Bobby Gore, operations manager at Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation (BEMC) which will be doing the work, said construction is scheduled to begin next Monday. Weather permitting, he said that section could be finished in seven or eight weeks. He added, however, "It's hard to put a timetable on something like that."

Proposed ditches needed for the underground wiring were staked out on both sides of these streets last week, said Roark, giving property owners a good idea where the ditch will be located.

Similar letters detailing the project will be mailed prior to the start of construction in each area, and stakes marking the proposed ditch route will also be posted as the work pro-

gresses. The order of work, as determined by town officials in conjunction with BEMC, will depend on seasonal traffic conditions and the need for new wiring in certain areas.

Work began at High Point Street, working east, because power lines in that area are the oldest on the island and the ones in most need of replacement. All lines buried underground will be new.

According to the town letter, the cost for each of the 135 property owners involved will vary depending on whether the existing service from the street to the home is underground and whether a new meter pan is required.

All property owners, however, will have to pay an assessment to the town based on a rate of \$1.15 per foot

plus three percent sales tax. The owner of a lot measuring 50 feet wide, for instance, will be assessed \$59.23.

Although payment of the assessment cannot be required until the work is completed, town officials have requested that property owners calculate their assessment and make prepayments, which would allow the town to extend its contract with BEMC and speed up completion of the total project.

Town commissioners have committed \$50,000 upfront to start the underground wiring project and hope to collect enough prepayments as work is completed to keep the project going non-stop.

In addition to the base assessment paid to the town, a good number of

the property owners in the first phase will have to pay another \$125 to BEMC for burying the existing overhead service from the pole to the house. These same homeowners will also be required to negotiate with a licensed electrical contractor to install a new meter pan.

According to Roark, 57 lot owners in the first phase, or about 42 percent, will have to meet these additional costs.

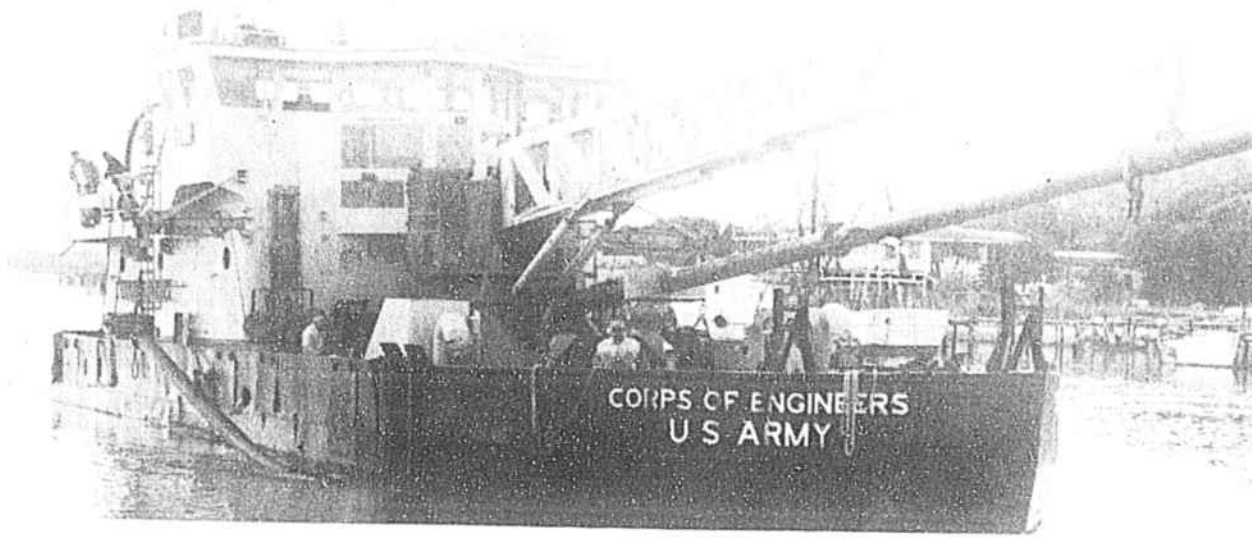
The actual ditch for the power lines will be located three feet to eight feet off the property line in the public right-of-way and will be centered in a six-foot corridor which is needed by the ditching equipment.

Pad-mounted transformers will be installed at intervals of approximate-

ly 400 feet and will be placed about one foot inside private properties on lot lines.

Since the ditching work will take place in the state and town rights-of-way, property owners have been asked to remove or relocate items such as plants, fences and garbage can racks situated in those areas. The letter emphasizes that neither the town nor BEMC will be liable for property left in the right-of-way.

Although BEMC plans to under-bore driveways in the right-of-way wherever possible, the letter also states that it may be necessary to cut concrete and asphalt in some places to accommodate the ditching. Repair will be the responsibility of the property owner.



Dredging Lockwood Folly

STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers dredge boat "Fry" pulls up to its waterway dock near Holden Beach Bridge after a recent day of work in Lockwood Folly Inlet. The maintenance dredging, which started Nov. 4,

should be finished during the first week in December. The 150-foot-wide inlet channel will be dredged to a mean low water depth of eight feet.

## Hospital Slates Arthritis Seminar

Grand Strand General Hospital will sponsor a free arthritis seminar on Tuesday, Nov. 29, from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Santee Cooper auditorium on the corner of 21st Avenue North and Oak Street in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Dr. Joe Jarrett Jr., a member of the hospital medical staff from Strand Orthopedic Consultants, will be the guest speaker. His presentation will cover all aspects of arthritis, concluding with a question and answer period.

The seminar is part of the hospital's "You and Your Health" monthly seminar series. Each month, a different aspect of health care is presented at no charge by a member of the medical staff.

For more information on this seminar or the series, contact Sydney Smith-Rikard at (803) 449-4411.

**TOWN OF HOLDEN BEACH  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
REZONING OF PROPERTY AT 136 OCEAN BLVD. WEST  
FROM R-1 TO R-2  
AMENDMENT TO ZONING ORDINANCE—  
APPOINTMENTS TO ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT  
APPOINTMENTS TO, POWERS AND DUTIES OF  
PLANNING AND ZONING BOARD**

A public hearing has been called for Monday, Dec. 5, 1988 at 7 p.m. at Town Hall to receive public comment on the following items:

1. Rezoning of Lot 3, Block N, R.H. Holden Subdivision, 136 Ocean Blvd. West from R-1 to R-2.
2. Amendment of Section 15-10.1 concerning appointments to Zoning Board of Adjustments.
3. Consider the adoption of a new ordinance concerning appointments to the Planning and Zoning Board and the powers and duties of the Planning and Zoning Board.

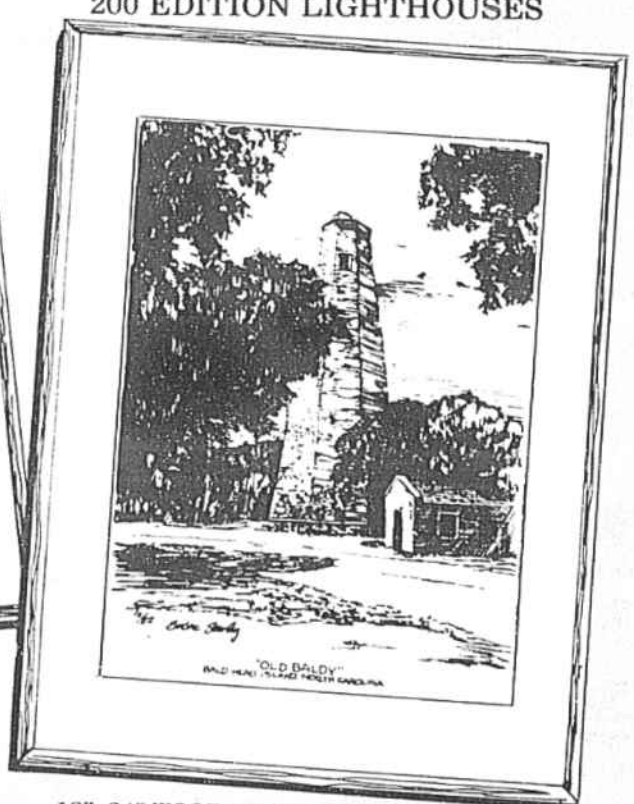
Sylvia Bisell, Town Clerk

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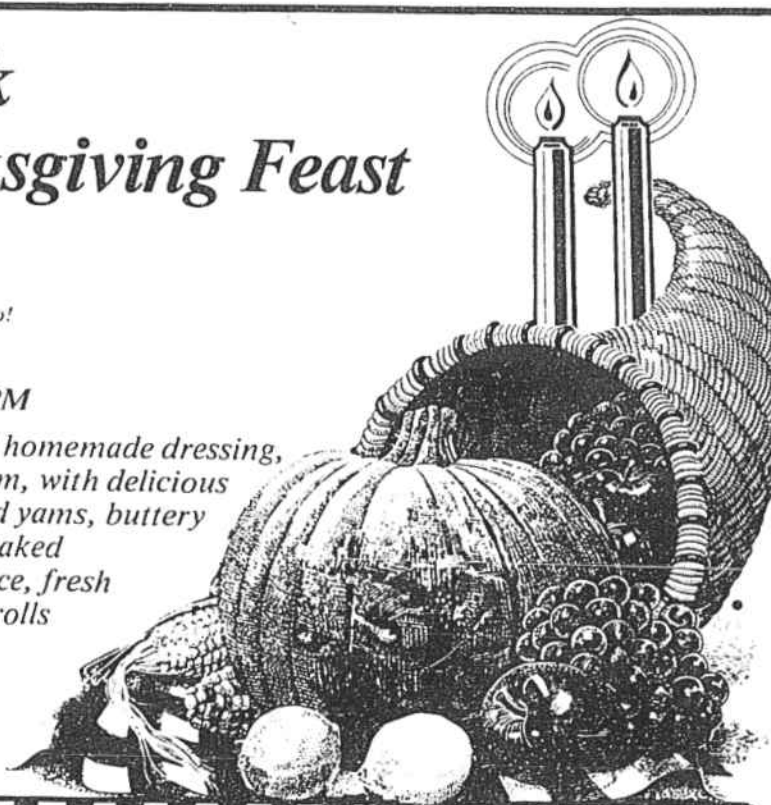
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