

County Voters Say 'Yes' To All Four ABC Issues

BY RAHN ADAMS

In a referendum that drew little attention until two weeks before voters went to the polls, Brunswick Counties Tuesday put their stamp of approval on countywide alcohol sales.

Thirty-seven percent or 9,615 of the county's approximately 25,500 registered voters turned out Tuesday to solidly endorse all four issues on the referendum ballot: on- and off-premises sale of beer; on- and off-premises sale of fortified wine; operation of ABC stores; and sale of mixed beverages in hotels, restaurants, private clubs, community theaters and convention centers in unincorporated areas of the county.

Elections Supervisor Lynda Britt said the 37-percent turnout was "good for a referendum." In October 1981, when countywide beer and wine sales were overwhelm-

ingly defeated here, voter turnout was only 29 percent. According to the Board of Elections, unofficial vote totals were: on- and off-premises beer—4,727 yes, 4,231 no; on- and off-premises wine—4,678 yes, 4,223 no; ABC stores—5,158 yes, 3,704 no; mixed beverages—5,117 yes, 3,856 no.

Comparisons between Tuesday's vote and the 1981 referendum underscore the growth and change that Brunswick County has seen over the past decade. In 1981, only six of the county's then 20 precincts approved any of the four beer and wine issues on that ballot.

Tuesday, 13 of the county's present 22 precincts approved at least one of the four alcohol issues. All four issues were approved in 10 precincts: Seccession II, Hood Creek, Southport I and II, Oak Island I and II,

Frying Pan, Grissetown, Shingletree and Boiling Spring Lakes.

At the same time, all four issues were defeated in nine precincts including Bolivia, Supply, Longwood, Ash, Freeland, Leland, Town Creek, Seccession I and Shallotte. Voters were split on the issues in Mosquito, Woodburn and Belville.

The Rev. Vic Potter, spokesman for Citizens Against Alcohol, attributed Tuesday's outcome to the large number of newcomers who have moved here from sections of the country where alcohol is more acceptable and to his figures that "58 percent of the adults in Brunswick County are not associated with any church."

"I'm just extremely disappointed that we've got that many people in Brunswick County who are willing to be a part of something that is so destructive to the com-

munity, the family and society as a whole," Potter told the Beacon Tuesday night.

Citizens Against Alcohol, co-chaired by local Baptist ministers Bryan Doshier and M.C. Herring, formed about two months ago but waited until two weeks before the election to begin an anti-alcohol advertising campaign.

A pro-alcohol group called Concerned Citizens of Brunswick County surfaced last week with local newspaper ads supporting passage of the referendum. According to spokesman David Winch, the group consisted mainly of members of the Oak Island Moose Lodge.

"I think it's great," Winch said Tuesday of the referendum's outcome. He added that he feels countywide (See ABC ISSUES, Page 2-A)

Election Results At A Glance

Shallotte		Ocean Isle Beach	
MAYOR		MAYOR	
✓ Jerry Jones	265	✓ Betty Williamson	99
ALDERMEN		COMMISSIONER	
✓ Paul Wayne Reeves	238	✓ Terry D. Barbee	90
✓ Sarah Tripp	206	✓ William "Bill" Benton	101
Chris Lane	157		
Joseph "Gene" Ebright	45		
Calabash		Holden Beach	
MAYOR		MAYOR	
✓ Doug Simmons	426	✓ John Tandy	192
Robert Cook	295	COMMISSIONER	
COMMISSIONER		✓ Gay Atkins	123
DISTRICT 1 (Calabash)		Guilford "Gil" Bass	118
✓ Keith Hardee	414	✓ Robert "Bob" Buck	172
✓ Edward Rice	430	William Williamson	95
DISTRICT 2 (Carolina Shores)		Aleck Alexiou	20
✓ George Anderson	381	✓ Kenner Amos	165
Thomas Brendgord	153	✓ Gloria Barrett	189
James Deehan	245	George Bradshaw	73
William Durr	71	✓ Judy Bryan	147
Robert Johnson	59	Don Pollard	77
✓ Phyllis Manning	268	Carole Rogers	79
John Myers	160	Varnamtown	
James Nay	54	MAYOR	
Darrell Peters	126	✓ Judy Galloway	113
Wesley Reynolds	148	Barbara "Bobbie" Varnam	30
✓ Jon Sanborn	277	ALDERMEN	
✓ Edward Schaak	340	✓ John David Dawson	108
Alfred Smith	234	✓ Ada McDonald	109
Paul Swanson	81	✓ Ennis Swain	120
✓ George Taubel	347	✓ Roger Robinson	106
Stuart Thorn	192	Pam Galloway	49
Sunset Beach		✓ Joseph Herring	86
MAYOR		Luellen Norris	79
✓ Mason Barber	98	Samuel Terry Varnam	74
TOWN COUNCIL		Bolivia	
✓ Edward M. Gore Sr.	78	MAYOR	
Katherine Love Peed	44	MAYOR	
Fran S. Salone-Pelletier	37	✓ Ina Mae Mintz	40
✓ D. G. "Bud" Scramton	84	ALDERMEN	
✓ Julia Thomas	79	Deborah "Debbie" Stanley	17
Clete Waldmiller	40	✓ Ella Jane Wescott	29
		✓ Robert S. Willetts III	35
		✓ Sarah E. Knox	39
		✓ Cecil D. Robbins Jr.	43

(See ELECTION RESULTS, Page 2-A)

Gore Becomes Early Entry In 13th District Attorney Race

BY RAHN ADAMS

Although news of his candidacy leaked out sooner than he intended, local attorney Rex Gore last week announced his intentions to seek the Democratic nomination for the 13th District Attorney's office next year.

In a Nov. 2 letter mailed to Democratic precinct chairmen in Colum-

bus County, the 41-year-old Gore stated that he will enter the 1990 District Attorney's race. The DA's office will be vacated by Southport resident Michael Easley—a two-term dis-

trict attorney who announced last month that he plans enter next year's Democratic race for the U.S. Senate seat now held by Republican Sen. Jesse Helms.

"I want to build upon the programs in place in the district attorney's office," Gore said in the letter, "but I also want to make the office more accessible and responsible to the public. My experience in private practice will help me run an office that is responsive to its clients—you, the people of the district."

Gore—a partner in the Shallotte law firm, Powell and Gore—told the *Beacon* Tuesday that he had not intended the letter to be a formal political announcement but that he inadvertently mailed a copy to precinct leader James High, who is bet-

ter known in Columbus County as editor and general manager of *The News Reporter*. Gore's candidacy was reported in Monday's edition of the Whiteville newspaper.

Gore said he also intended to personally notify precinct leaders in Brunswick and Bladen counties of his intentions before making a more formal, public announcement. No public announcements have been made by any other possible candidates.

A Columbus County native, Gore has practiced law in Brunswick County for the past eight years. He served as assistant district attorney in Columbus County from 1980 to 1982, and lost the 1982 Democratic DA's nomination to Easley. Both Gore and Easley were assistants to former District Attorney Lee J. Greer Sr.

Gore is president of the 13th Judicial District Bar Association and Legal Services of the Lower Cape Fear, and is chairman of the Southeastern Center Board of Directors. He is former chairman of the Brunswick County Democratic Party, and former president of the West Brunswick High School Booster Club and Shallotte Middle School PTO.

A graduate of N.C. State University and Campbell University Law School, he is married to Janice Suggs Gore of Guideway. They have a daughter, Felicia, who is a sophomore at USC-Coastal Carolina, Conway, S.C. Gore is a teacher and deacon at Calvary Baptist Church, Shallotte.

CALABASH RE-ELECTS MAYOR SIMMONS

Holden Beach Votes Against Annexation

BY DOUG RUTTER AND SUSAN USHER

Annexation proved to be the major election issue at Holden Beach, helping draw 297, or approximately 74 percent, of the town's 403 voters to the polls in what was one of the best turnouts of the 15 municipal and two special district elections conducted countywide Tuesday.

Once at the polls, the islanders elected all four candidates for commissioner who said they would vote to overturn an ordinance to annex 67 acres bordering the mainland causeway.

And, in one of the biggest election-day surprises, residents of the Carolina Shores golf course community helped return Mayor Doug Simmons to office in the newly-consolidated town of Calabash.

Incumbents Bob Buck and Gay Atkins each were re-elected for another two years. Other winners were former commissioner Gloria Barrett, former mayor Kenner Amos and political newcomer Judy Bryan.

Along with incumbent Buck, Barrett, Amos and Bryan all campaigned as annexation opponents. Commissioner Atkins, who has served on the board since 1985, has previously voted in favor of mainland annexation.

Mrs. Barrett, who received the most votes among the 11 candidates

for commissioner, said her stance on annexation was the key to her victory. "I think annexation was on everybody's mind today," she said Tuesday. "It was an exciting night."

In claiming her first elected office, Mrs. Bryan agreed that annexation was the biggest single issue. "It wasn't my victory. It was the people's victory," she said. "The people finally got to vote on annexation like they should have all along."

Mayor John Tandy, who was the only person to file for mayor at Holden Beach, was elected to his third consecutive two-year term with 192 votes.

Commissioner Georgia Langley, who did not seek re-election to a second term and will go off the board next month, received 65 write-in votes for mayor. She said Tuesday she had nothing to do with the write-in campaign and said she had refused several requests to run as a write-in candidate.

Tandy said he wasn't upset about the write-in campaign. "It's simply a pleasure to have the opportunity to serve for another two years," he said.

Though the new town board will feature three new faces, Tandy said the newly-elected officials have a lot of experience: "We should be able to move around pretty well and get things done."

Annexation and related growth

issues were also voter concerns in towns as far-flung as Calabash, Sunset Beach and Southport, with sometimes surprising twists in voting.

In one of the biggest surprises of Tuesday's elections, voters in the recently-enlarged Town of Calabash elected incumbent Mayor Doug Simmons over Carolina Shores Property Owners Association President Robert Cook.

Simmons, who defeated Cook by 131 votes, said Tuesday he felt good going into the election but was still surprised at the wide margin of victory. The Calabash native has served as mayor for seven years and was elected Tuesday for another four years.

"I knew I had a lot of friends over there, but it really made me feel good that I had that much support," he said. "I appreciate the support everyone gave, and I look forward to working with the new council. We've got a lot of work ahead of us."

Following an Aug. 22 referendum, the Town of Calabash was expanded to include all of the Carolina Shores golf course community. The town's current five-member council will be replaced next month with a seven-member board of commissioners with representatives from both districts.

Incumbent Councilmen Ed Rice

and Keith Hardee, the only two candidates from District 1 (Calabash) where two commission seats were available, were elected with 430 and 414 votes respectively.

Also claiming seats on the new board of commissioners were five persons from District 2 (Carolina Shores). Chosen from 16 candidates, winners were George Anderson, George Taubel, Edward Schaack, Jon Sanborn and Phyllis Manning.

To set up a system of staggered four-year terms on the town board, the top vote-getter from District 1 and the top three from District 2 will serve four years and the three other winning candidates will each serve two years.

Rice, Anderson, Taubel and Schaack will each serve four years. Those elected to two-year terms were Hardee, Sanborn and Manning. In 1991, the three seats up for election will be for four-year terms.

In Shallotte, incumbent Aldermen Paul Wayne Reeves and Sarah Tripp were both re-elected for another four years and Jerry Jones, unopposed, was voted to his second four-year term as mayor.

Reeves and Mrs. Tripp held off challenges from two other town board candidates. Reeves received 238 votes and was elected to his fourth consecutive term on the (See MUNICIPAL, Page 2-A)

Local Governments Hoping For \$690,000 In Public Assistance

BY DOUG RUTTER

Local government officials hope to receive about \$690,000 in federal funds to offset costs associated with Hurricane Hugo.

If all goes well, Brunswick County and seven local municipalities should have the money in hand before the end of November, according to state public assistance officer Jeff Arndt.

The local governments have applied for the federal public assistance program which reimburses counties, towns and other groups for some of the money spent as a result of the hurricane. Expenses such as clearing debris and repairing roads and water lines are eligible for reimbursement.

Public assistance becomes available to local governments and private non-profit groups whenever a site is declared a federal disaster area. Brunswick County was declared a disaster area on Sept. 28, one week after Hugo's storm surge caused an estimated \$89 million in damage along the coast.

In addition to the county, the towns of Sunset Beach, Ocean Isle Beach, Holden Beach, Long Beach, Yaupon Beach, Bald Head Island and Southport are seeking public assistance.

Federal and state inspectors came to the area about two weeks ago to fill out damage survey reports listing costs already incurred by the local governments as well as anticipated costs.

The reports must be approved at the state level by the governor's authorized representative before any checks are written, said Arndt.

Brunswick County Emergency

Management Coordinator Cecil Logan said the county is expecting about \$69,000 in public assistance. That total would cover emergency response and overtime hours in several county agencies, including the health, social services and sheriff's departments, as well as the hours county equipment was used.

But the \$69,000 county total is small compared to expenses incurred by several of the local beach towns. Any public assistance to the beach towns would be given in addition to the \$300,000 in state and federal funds already allocated for emergency dune construction in Brunswick County.

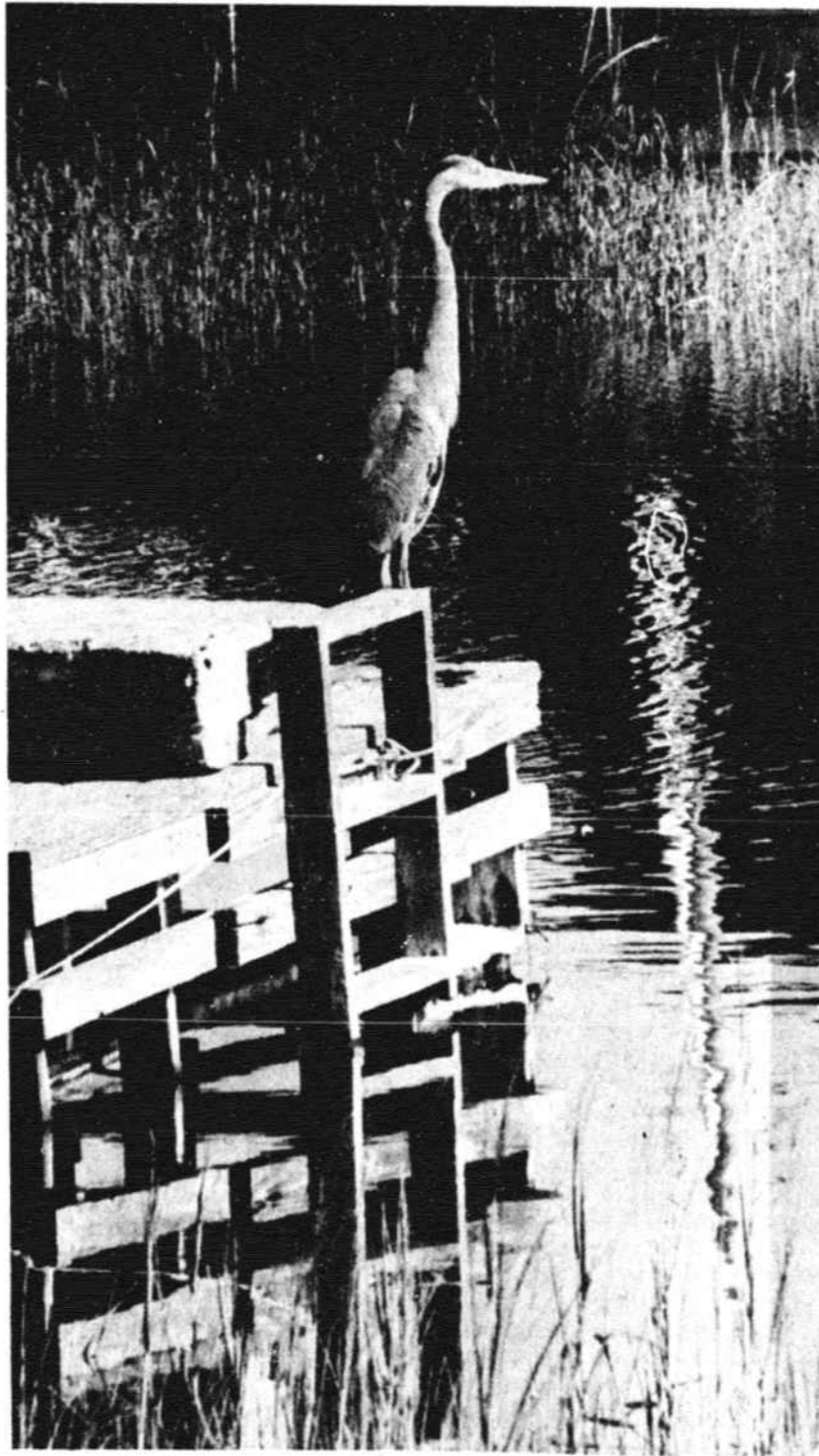
Officials at the South Brunswick Islands beaches—Sunset, Ocean Isle and Holden—said they hope to receive about \$220,000 in federal public assistance.

The Town of Ocean Isle Beach alone may be entitled to more than \$125,000 in public assistance, according to damage survey reports on file at town hall.

A good chunk of that total—\$56,000—would pay for repairs to 21 beach accessways along the length of the island. Other major expenses resulting from the hurricane include \$25,000 for sand fencing and beach grass and \$20,000 for debris removal.

Ocean Isle officials also hope to be reimbursed \$12,287 for repairing the eastern section of East First Street, about \$9,000 for personnel costs relating to the storm and \$3,545 for replacing 450 of water line at the east end.

Holden Beach Town Manager (See GOVERNMENT, Page 2-A)



STAFF PHOTO BY RAHN ADAMS

All Dressed Up...

This stern-faced crane appears to have just missed his boat, as he stands on the dock of a canal home at Ocean Isle Beach.