

## Hooked On Fishing

Misti Gore is all smiles after hooking this sunfish at the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission CATCH Clinic Saturday in Supply. The story and more photos are on Page 10-C.



## Candidate Profiles

All of the candidates running in Tuesday's primary election who responded to a *Beacon* questionnaire are profiled in today's edition. The profiles begin on Page 1-B.



## Bo's Coming Back

From big band to beach, Bo Thorpe and His Orchestra will make music for dancing when they return May 11 for the second annual Spring Charity Ball in Shallotte. The story's on Page 10-B.

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## Above-Average Voter Turnout Forecast For Tuesday's Elections

BY SUSAN USHER

Brunswick County Board of Elections Supervisor Lynda Britt is predicting that as many as 45 percent of the county's 26,661 registered voters could turn out to cast ballots in Tuesday's primary election.

"That's high, but I'm hoping there would be that much interest," she said.

A typically "good" turnout for most elections boards would be about 40 percent in a year without a gubernatorial or presidential election, Ms. Britt said, "but we like to do a little better."

Candidates who answered a *Beacon* questionnaire are profiled in today's newspaper, beginning on Page 1-B.

Unlike in past years, candidates in Tuesday's primary can win with 40 percent of the vote, instead of the previous 50 percent. The General Assembly adopted the change last year, indicating it could reduce the number of second primaries required and also increase the odds of minority candidates winning their party's primary.

"There are some races that will be lively contests," predicted Glen Peterson, chairman of the Brunswick County Democratic Party. "The 40 percent rule means they will be contested even more hotly. We have a variety of candidates of all persuasions, which gives a good choice for the voters. I think the result will be a representative slate for November."

As one example, he cited the District 5 commission-

ers' race, in which the incumbent is being challenged by a former county commissioner and a first-time candidate. "I think that race will be very close to that 40 percent mark," he said.

Such lively races are what make the Democratic Party so "dynamic" locally, he said, but they also make it necessary to work after the primaries to "neutralize" any differences that emerge in the spring campaigns in order to unify the party behind its nominees in the general election.

That process of post-primary reunification is something the Brunswick County Republican Party is beginning to make at least a nodding acquaintance with, suggested GOP Chairman Malcolm Grissett. Traditionally

the county GOP party has had few primaries, much less a second primary, he noted. "But that is changing. It's something Republicans are going to have to get used to as more people move into the county and our registration increases."

A five-man field seeking the Republican Party's nomination for sheriff could result in a second primary, which, to Grissett's knowledge, would be a first in Brunswick County. "They are all good candidates, but I don't think at this point in time any of our candidates could win 40 percent of the vote," he said.

While some county residents may question the change in election law, Grissett said he thinks the 40

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## Whole Tires Dumped On 2 Farms

BY SUSAN USHER

Haulers have illegally dumped truck loads of tires in recent weeks on two farms in northern Brunswick County, prompting concern by property owners that the trend could accelerate.

The latest incident occurred last Wednesday evening at the Charles (Chip) Carroll farm at Northwest.

Tommy Williams, an uncle of Carroll who works on the 300-acre farm, was returning to a field where the two were working when he saw a mound of tires blocking a road-way that less than an hour earlier had been clear.

"It's surprising how you feel to come back and see something like this where you were just a short while before," Williams recalled as he pointed out the spot where he estimated between 500 and 1,000 tires had been dumped without the Carroll family's permission. Williams said he expects the problem of illegal dumping to worsen in light of new state laws governing the disposal of whole tires — legislation he said is a good idea but may be difficult to enforce.

As of April 1, tire haulers are required to possess identification numbers and use a tire certification form provided by the N.C. Division of Solid Waste Management.

Whole tires may no longer be disposed of in any North Carolina sanitary landfill. The Brunswick County Landfill near Supply is continuing to accept tires, but requires they be removed from the rims and separated from other garbage, according to Director Leo Hewett. The landfill has installed a machine for cutting the tires into strips. When left whole in landfills, tires float to the surface. When mounded they also pose a serious fire hazard.

Workers at the Carroll farm were planting corn in a nearby field at the time the tires were apparently un-

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TOMMY WILLIAMS stands near a pile of tires dumped illegally last Wednesday on the farm owned and operated by his nephew, Charles Carroll, and Carroll's wife, Susan, at Northwest. Tires have been dumped in recent weeks on at least one other farm in the area as well.

STAFF PHOTO BY SUSAN USHER

## Storms Disrupt Electricity To 1,500 Homes

BY SUSAN USHER

A chain of thunderstorms that charged across Brunswick County Monday night left approximately 1,500 households temporarily without electrical service and disrupted telephone and cable television service to others as a result of lightning damage.

"It was a meanie," said Bobby Gore, manager of operations for Brunswick Electric Membership Corp. in Shallotte. The cooperative provides electrical service to customers located primarily in Brunswick and Columbus counties.

Workers were still putting services back on line at 8 a.m. Tuesday. "We worked all night," Gore said. "We had four storms we had to deal with right in a row. One had hail about the size of the end of your finger. We had some transformers to go out and a lot of fuses to blow, but no outages on transmission, thank the Lord."

Percy Woodard, member services

"All that lightning worked us over good."

—Percy Woodard  
ATMC spokesman

director for Atlantic Telephone Membership Corp., predicted crews would be working throughout the day Tuesday to restore services, mainly to cable TV customers, but to some telephone subscribers as well. "It's hard to prepare for something as bad as we had last night," he said. "All that lightning worked us over good."

The biggest electrical outage for BEMC occurred in the Longwood area around midnight, where Gore said service to most residences was not restored until morning.

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## Torie Williamson Named Teacher Of The Year

During the selection process for Brunswick County's Teacher of the Year, Victoria Saretto "Torie" Williamson described herself as "an innovative, energetic, enthusiastic, loving teacher who strives to be creative."

"I love my students and support them in all they try to achieve. I do all I can to make them proud of themselves, yet I push them to be the very best they can be. I am always eager to learn and I want my students to be the same."

Whether for those or other qualities, Mrs. Williamson became the second county Teacher of the Year in as many years to come from Shallotte Middle School. She was selected for the honor by a panel of five judges last Wednesday.

Mrs. Williamson has taught a self-contained fifth-grade class during her three years at Shallotte Middle School, and this semester is teaching in a cooperative learning project with a partner, Julia Morrison. She succeeds Gwen Clemmons Causey, also on the faculty at Shallotte Middle and a judge in this year's selection. She will advance to Region 2 competition this coming winter.

First runner-up in the countywide competition was Judy H. Kemmer of Long Beach, a fifth-grade teacher at Southport Elementary with 21 years of teaching experience. Second runner-up was Gracie B. McLarty of Leland, a sixth-grade teacher at Leland Middle School with 13 years of teaching experience.

Mrs. Williamson, a teacher for nine years, has taught fourth through ninth grades. She was previously on the faculty of Farm Life Elementary School in Vanceboro, Havelock Junior High in Havelock and P.S. Jones Junior High in Washington, N.C.

She holds an A.B. degree in education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a master's degree in education from East Carolina University, both in intermediate education with a science emphasis.

Mrs. Williamson has also taught at Polly's Preschool, while her own children were of preschool age.

Professionally, she holds membership in the North Carolina Association of Educators, National Educator's Association and Delta Kappa Gamma honorary, of which she is first vice president. She also participates in the Brunswick County Schools Professional Book Club.

Mrs. Williamson has taken a variety of professional development workshops over the past three years. At Shallotte Middle, she has served on the Southern Association accreditation study steering committee, as coordinator of the SCIIS and CLIMB curriculum programs, science committee chairperson, school assistance team member and science fair coordinator.

Other teachers entered in the competition and the schools they represented were: Tom Simmons, Union Primary; Lizzie Mitchell, South Brunswick High; Lisa Brown, West Brunswick High; Mariea Diana Carey, Lincoln Primary; Allison Teresa Brendle, South Brunswick Middle; Sally H. McMillan, Waccamaw Elementary; and Brenda H. Tayloe, Bolivia Elementary.



WILLIAMSON

## 2-Year Term For Commissioners Is Sought By Local Democrats

BY SUSAN USHER

Rep. David Redwine says he is considering a request by local Democrats to change the term of office for Brunswick County Commissioners from four years back to two years, but such a bill could not be introduced until next year's legislative session.

Brunswick County Democrats voted at their April 21 convention to ask Redwine "to do whatever is necessary" to change the term of office for commissioners to two years.

Under the state General Assembly's rules of adjournment, items of a controversial nature cannot be taken up in the short summer session, Redwine noted, adding, "and this would obviously be controversial."

Meanwhile, Redwine said he is trying to gauge public sentiment regarding the proposal, which was adopted on a 39-23 vote of the precincts present.

The measure was one of three

resolutions introduced by Oak Island Precinct No. 2 at the convention. Delegates adopted a resolution supporting protection of the Social Security system and of the Monihan bill specifically, but voted down a resolution that asked Redwine "to do whatever is necessary" to change Brunswick County Board of Education elections from partisan back to non-partisan. The latter bill said the change to partisan elections "has not resulted in the desired outcome" and that education of school children should be the objective of every school board member regardless of their party affiliation.

Brunswick County Commissioners are elected to staggered, four-year terms under provisions of a redistricting plan that went into effect in 1983. The plan also created five electoral districts based on population; previously the county's six townships also served as electoral districts.

In seeking the change of terms

for county commissioners, the Oak Island resolution expounds, "Whereas many individuals elected to serve a four-year term on the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners become complacent, ignore the requirements of the office and refuse to be responsive to the public's right to know;"

It continues by referring to the actions of three board members in voting to hire a state official as county manager without going through the usual process of advertisement, review of applications and interview — a hiring decision that was later reversed.

The resolution also points out that state and federal representatives have to run for office every two years.

In attempting to gauge the public's feelings about the proposal, Redwine said he's encountered mixed responses.

Also, he's concerned that the measure not be considered "politi-

cal," given that the Republican Party has three candidates up for election in 1992, the first year such a change could take effect.

"I don't know how the Republican Party feels about it, but some Republicans have approached me. If I were to get a resolution from the Republican Party also, certainly that would carry a lot of weight."

Arguments Redwine says he's heard in favor of the two-year term for commissioners include greater fiscal accountability, he said.

Redwine says he also has been approached about introducing legislation that would allow for recall of local officials. "But I haven't agreed to do anything with that. It wouldn't pass."

Neither Gene Pinkerton, chairman of the board of commissioners and a Republican, nor Grace Beasley, its vice chairman and a Democrat, could be reached for comment Tuesday afternoon on the resolution

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