

### Family Of Fishermen

Ruby McDowell and her family collected 11 awards Saturday in the Brunswick County Fishing Club's fishing contest. Story on Page 10-C.



### Top Choice

Assistant D.A. Napoleon Barefoot Jr. is the bar's top choice for the 13th District Judgeship now held by Superior Judge-elect William C. Gore Jr. See Page 13-A for the story.



**Frolic By The Sea!**  
Play a little or a lot—the choice is yours. A supplement with details on all festival events is included inside this issue.

# THE BRUNSWICK BEACON

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CATHY CARLISLE broke the state record she set in 1988 Saturday, winning the 1990 North Carolina Oyster Shucking Championship with a time of 2:07. Above, she accepts a check for \$100 and a plaque Saturday from Dean Walters, contest chairman.

STAFF PHOTO BY EDDIE SWEATT

## RECORD BROKEN

# Cathy Carlisle Reclaims State Oyster Shucking Championship

BY SUSAN USHER

It's been two years since Cathy Carlisle's earned her living "picking" oysters, but that wasn't evident Saturday when the former national grand champion shucked her way to a new state record.

Shucking against the clock and eight competitors, Ms. Carlisle shattered the N.C. Oyster Shucking Championship record of 2:21.40 she had set in 1988, the year she claimed her third consecutive state championship.

"I'm shocked," she said afterward while accepting congratulations from well-wishers. "I had no idea I could do it this year. I thought maybe next year..."

One onlooker, Boyd Rack of Stanley County, touched her arm. "I wanted to shake your hand," he said. "You must be good."

She was. The 27-year-old Shallotte Point resident opened 24 raw oysters in 2 minutes, 11 seconds, a time that improved to 2:07 with bonus deductions awarded by judges for an outstanding tray. The feat earned her \$100 and the opportunity to represent North Carolina at the National Oyster Shucking Championship Contest in St. Mary's County, Md.,

next Oct. 19 and 20. She's looking forward to the trip. "Of course," she said when asked. "That's my mini-vacation."

For the second straight year Shirley Simmons finished as first runner-up, earning \$75 with an adjusted time of 2:58. Dorothy Hill placed third with an adjusted time of 3:23, for \$50.

The 1989 champion, Karen McNeil of Shallotte, did not defend her title Saturday. Instead she represented North Carolina in national competition. (See related story in this issue.)

All but two of the contestants were from Brunswick County. Competing from outside the area, both in the first heat, were Bob Thompson of Denton, who has competed several times in previous years, and Ted Hammerman of Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Judging was based on appearance of the final trays as well as on speed. Seconds were added to the contestants' times for oysters that were cut, improperly placed on the shell, presented with grit or blood, not severed completely from the shell, presented on a broken shell or missing. In turn judges could deduct

(See CATHY, Page 2-A)

# Nearly 28,000 County Voters Could Cast Ballots On Nov. 8

Close to 28,000 people will be eligible to vote in the Nov. 6 general election in Brunswick County, a thousand more than could vote in the May primary.

By the time the books closed on Oct. 8, according to the Brunswick County Board of Elections, 27,743 voters were registered. That is 1,052 — or 4 percent — more than were registered prior to the May primary.

Lynda Britt, elections supervisor, said the increase is normal, reflecting a mixture of newcomers to the county, 18-year-olds registering for the first time and local residents who have not registered in a long time.

The books now show 16,820 Democrats, an increase of 548 or 3.4 percent; 9,802 Republicans, an increase of 450 or 4.8 percent; and

1,121 unaffiliated voters, up by 84. The totals reflect 22,278 white voters, up 871 or 3.9 percent; and 4,541 black voters, up 4.8 percent.

Largest of the county's 22 precincts are Shingletree, in the Calabash area, with 2,565 voters, and Oak Island No. 2 with 1,890 voters. The smallest precinct is Longwood, with 396 voters.

On Nov. 6 Brunswick County voters will elect a sheriff, clerk of court, two county commissioners, two county board of education members and, in a non-partisan race, two soil and water conservation district supervisors.

County commissioners and school board members run from individual districts but are elected by voters countywide. Up for election this year are the District 5 and District 2

seats. Local voters will also cast ballots for a state senator, chief justice and associate justice of the N.C. Supreme Court, seven judges for the N.C. Court of Appeals, 27 Superior Court judges (including William C. Gore Jr., unopposed in the 13th district), a U.S. congressman and a U.S. senator.

Incumbents David Wall and David Redwine are unopposed for 13th district judge and the State House of Representatives respectively.

Also on the ballot is a state proposal to issue \$200 million in bonds to build new prison and youth services facilities.

Profiles of candidates for local, regional and state offices will be included in the Nov. 1 edition of *The Brunswick Beacon*.

# FBI Arrests Suspected Bank Robber

BY DOUG RUTTER

A North Myrtle Beach, S.C., man remained in the custody of the U.S. Marshal's Service Tuesday following his arrest last week in connection with a recent bank robbery in Calabash and another armed robbery in South Carolina.

The FBI last week arrested Charles Elwood Pennington, 47, and charged him with the Sept. 28 armed robbery of the Calabash NCNB branch office and the Sept. 12 armed robbery of the National Bank of South Carolina in Surfside Beach.

Paul V. Daly, special agent in charge of the FBI for North Carolina, said federal agents from both Carolinas and officers with the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department and North Myrtle Beach Police Department were involved in the Oct. 16 arrest.

Paul Cox, an agent in the FBI's Wilmington office, said the suspect was arrested while driving on U.S. 17. He said the arrest came as a result of a surveillance operation.

Daly said that prior to the arrest, FBI agents had recovered money stolen during both bank robberies. Agents also recovered a significant amount of the money stolen from the NCNB branch at the time of the arrest.

Cox said FBI policy prevents agents from disclosing the amount of money that is stolen during a bank robbery or recovered later. "A good amount of the money was recovered," he said of the Calabash robbery. "They didn't get much to

begin with."

Authorities also located the vehicles used to flee the banks after the robberies and the weapon believed to have been used in both robberies. Cox said the weapon was a .38-caliber Colt police positive special.

The Calabash NCNB branch was robbed about four weeks ago when a man armed with a handgun walked into the bank, demanded money and fled with an undisclosed amount of cash. Authorities said there were no customers inside the bank at the time of the robbery, and nobody was injured.

It was the first bank robbery this year in Brunswick County, but the fifth robbery of a financial institution in Calabash in the last 15 months.

Calabash receives its only law

enforcement from the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department, and town officials have no immediate plans to add police protection.

Cox said the suspect was held in Myrtle Beach, S.C., Jail the night of his arrest. Pennington was taken to Florence, S.C., the following day where he was placed in the custody of the Marshal's Service.

FBI agents don't think the suspect had an accomplice. "Right now it looks like he acted on his own," Cox said. "There is no information to lead us to believe there was a co-conspirator."

If he is convicted of each of the armed robberies, Pennington would face a maximum sentence of 25 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine for each offense.

## Set Clocks Back An Hour Saturday

Saturday's the night to "fall back" to standard time for the next six months. That means local residents should set their clocks back an hour, at least if they intend to make it to church on time Sunday.

Daylight Saving Time is achieved by advancing the clock one hour the first Sunday in April, "adding" an hour of sunlight at the end of the day.

Daylight Savings Time has had a checkered history since 1784, when Benjamin Franklin, then minister to France, calculated that an extra hour of sunlight could save Parisian shopkeepers one million francs on the 96 million candles they wouldn't have to burn each year.

In the U.S. it was first introduced in 1918 as a means of saving fuel in World War I, reinstated year-round during World War II, then became a local option until 1967, when the Uniform Time Act took effect. The act established a daylight season from late April to late October.

Since the last amendment to the act took effect in 1987, DST has begun at 2 a.m. the first Sunday in April and continued until 2 a.m. the last Sunday of October.

## More Oyster Festival Coverage, 8A, 9A, 13-B

# McNeil Finishes Second In Women's Competition

BY SUSAN USHER

A Shallotte woman finished second in the national women's oyster shucking contest Saturday at the St. Mary's County Oyster Festival in Leonardtown, Md.

Karen McNeil opened 24 raw oysters in an adjusted time of 3 minutes, 28 seconds, or just nine seconds behind the top woman shucker, Clementine Macon of Urbanna, Va.

On Sunday Ms. Macon lost a showdown for the national shucking championship to defending champion Duke Landry of Baton Rouge, La. Landry posted an adjusted time of 2:59.52 to Ms. Macon's 3:31.80 to earn the right to represent the United States in international competition in Galway, Ireland, next September.

A pleased Ms. McNeil returned to Brunswick County Monday night with a plaque and \$200, which she will use "to pay a bill," she said.

She said the national competition was similar to the North Carolina state contest, held annually in conjunction with the N.C. Oyster Festival at Seaside, in all but one respect: "The judging was tougher up there. They had some good competition."

Her adjusted time reflected 74

seconds in added penalties. But at qualifying earlier Saturday, Ms. McNeil said she posted an adjusted time of 4 minutes. "I got 94 penalties added on to my time," she said. "I didn't think I was going to qualify for anything."

The 1989 North Carolina oyster shucking champion was competing for the first time at the national level, having forfeited defense of her state title Saturday for the opportunity. She had acquired a new knife for the event, but chose instead to use her old one when there wasn't time to have the handle honed down to size, the Lloyd's Oyster Co. employee said.

Even after a shaky start, she said competing in Maryland was exciting. Saturday morning she had car trouble—a broken hose—and arrived at the festival site with only a few minutes to spare.

"I thought I was going to miss it," Ms. McNeill said Tuesday. "I got there just in time to pick up my oysters. I got to practice for about five minutes."

Ms. Macon also defeated the defending women's champion, her sister, Deborah Pratt of Urbanna, to claim the national women's title. Ms. Pratt finished in fourth place among five women competitors.



STAFF PHOTO BY SUSAN USHER

TWO PEOPLE were injured in this 8 a.m. accident Tuesday near West Brunswick High School on N.C. 130 West.

# Winnabow Woman Charged In Accident

A Winnabow resident was charged with failing to yield the right of way and to carry insurance following a Tuesday morning collision at the intersection of N.C. 130 and Bridgers Road in Shallotte in rush-hour traffic.

Shallotte Police Chief Rodney Gause charged Elizabeth Wright Saunders, 47, of Route 1, Winnabow, in the 8 a.m. accident that involved three vehicles.

Ms. Saunders was traveling east on N.C. 130 toward Shallotte in a 1981 Pontiac when she made a left turn onto Bridgers Road in front of a

west-bound truck driven by Jim Furr of Shallotte. A teacher with the Brunswick County Schools, Furr was on his way to West Brunswick High School, said Gause.

The police chief said the Saunders car sustained extensive damage to the right front quarter panel and was a total loss. He estimated that the Furr truck, which also sustained heavy front-end damage, was "probably totaled" also.

Upon impact, the left rear of Furr's truck swung around, said Gause, and was struck by an eastbound 1987 Nissan operated by James

Anthony Bryant. Bryant had been traveling behind the Saunders car. Damage to his car was approximately \$1,500.

Both Shallotte and Coastline volunteer rescue squads responded to the scene.

Furr was treated at The Brunswick Hospital in Supply for incapacitating injuries and was kept overnight for observation, Gause said.

Ms. Saunders, who sustained non-incapacitating injuries, was treated and released.

Bryant, 57, of Route 3, Shallotte, complained of injuries but had no visible signs of injury.