

# THE BRUNSWICK BEACON

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## WILL SEEK BLACK VOTING DISTRICTS

# Black Leaders Resign Democratic Party Posts

BY SUSAN USHER

Five black Brunswick County Democratic party leaders resigned their posts Monday, saying they will no longer work to elect white Democratic candidates if voters won't support black candidates.

They also announced plans to pursue creation of two black majority electoral districts in the county to insure black representation on the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners and Brunswick County Board of Education.

Their actions come in reaction to the general election last Tuesday, in which no blacks were elected to county offices.

At the Nov. 6 election returns, Franklin Randolph, who resigned Monday as Democratic chairman of Supply precinct, said he and other black leaders were "disgusted" with the outcome of the elections.

"Some Democratic leaders have betrayed us," he said. "They have broken their promise. We gave them our wholehearted support but they did not reciprocate. We voted for 100 percent of the Democratic candidates



RANDOLPH

and they did not vote for us."

The one black incumbent, James "Jimbo" Clemmons of Leland, lost his District 5 seat on the Brunswick County Board of Education to white Republican Yvonne L. Bright in the election's closest contest.

Joseph Stevenson of Supply, the only other black candidate for local office, lost his bid for the District 2 seat on the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners to Republican Jerry Jones, currently mayor of Shallotte.

Democrat party leaders who resigned with Randolph Monday were Shady Daniels, chairman of Longwood precinct; Bernest Hewett, chairman of Mosquito precinct; and George

Coatney, first vice-chairman of Bolivia precinct.

Glenn Peterson, chairman of the Brunswick County Democratic Party, said he accepted their resignations with regret.

"I understand why they're doing this," he said. "We hope at some future time they will feel comfortable enough to work with the rest of the party in electing Democratic candidates."

While resigning their positions, the black leaders stressed that they were not resigning from the party itself. Black leaders may pursue legal action to change the county's election laws. (See BLACK LEADERS, Page 2-A)



## It's Official

Board of Elections employee Lois Baccarny watches as Chairman Glenda Walker signs the official results of the general election. Only the numbers changed. See Page 3-A.

## Signs On The Way

Signs like this one are going up soon at Sunset Harbor, where golf carts are a popular mode of transportation. The story's on Page 6-A.



## Holden Beach Sees More Erosion

The ocean took another bite out of Holden Beach over the weekend as waves knocked down wooden decks and stairs overlooking the strand and eroded more dunes and a state road at the east end.

Most of the erosion occurred last Friday night and Saturday morning when a low-pressure weather system moved through the area and kicked up rough seas, according to Building Inspector Dwight Carroll.

"It's just heartbreaking," Mayor John Tandy said. "Every year there's a few winter storms that give us fits. This year it seems like we're getting it in the fall."

The weekend erosion was the just latest to occur this fall at Holden Beach, where dunes and beach accessways rebuilt following Hurricane Hugo last year have been damaged several times. Most of the damage has been at the east end and in the 600 to 800 blocks of Ocean Boulevard West.

Sand dunes and beach accessways were pounded last month when two tropical storms caused

rough seas. Two weeks ago, the alignment of the sun and the moon resulted in abnormally high tides and more erosion at Holden Beach.

Tandy said erosion during the weekend uncovered old house foundations on the beach in the 500 block of Ocean Boulevard West. He said some people who lost stairs or decks over the weekend plan to wait until spring to rebuild them.

Carroll said some areas on Holden Beach, including the far east end where a section of Ocean Boulevard has been closed to car traffic, are now eroding during normal tide and weather conditions.

"The tides have been hitting it every day," Carroll said. "It's not just a case of high tides. Every day it gets a little more sand."

Carroll said waves washed sand away from around the pilings that support a house at the far east end of the island over the weekend.

Wilton Carr of Lumberton owns the threatened cottage at 355 Ocean Blvd. East. Carroll posted the house an uninhabitable last week when the

septic tank system was damaged.

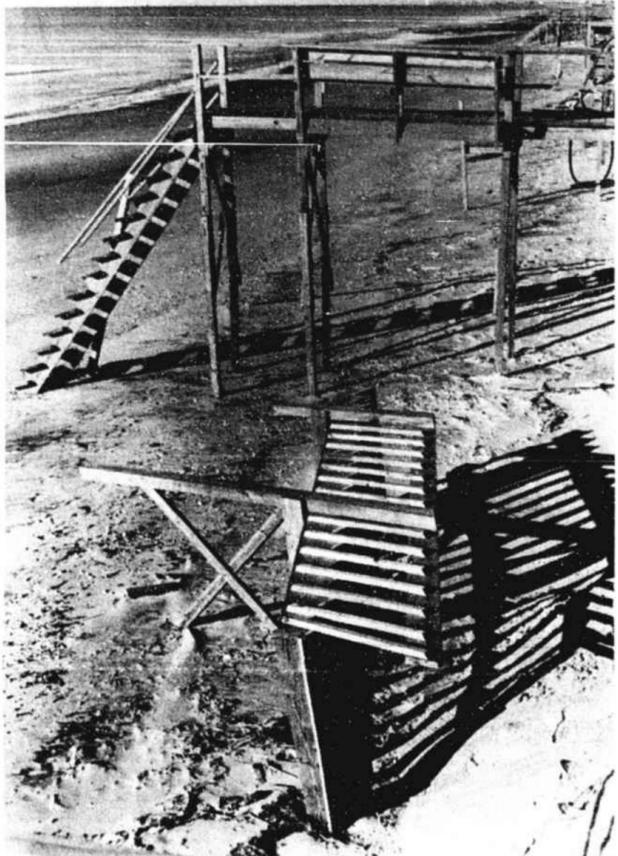
The building inspector said the owner of the home has applied for federal assistance to have the structure relocated or destroyed under the Upton-Jones provision of the National Flood Insurance Program.

While Holden Beach property owners have suffered, other Brunswick County beaches have seen little or no erosion damage this fall.

Ocean Isle Beach Building Inspector Druied Roberson said there was no erosion damage over the weekend. He said requiring beachfront homeowners who rebuilt accessways following Hugo to keep them farther back from the ocean than they were before the hurricane has paid off.

Another unusually high tide is expected Dec. 2, and it could result in more damage if it occurs during a storm.

"We've had some bad erosion but it's not really all that bad yet," Mayor Tandy said. "All we can do is hope and wish and do the best we can."



STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

STAIRS LEADING TO THE BEACH were toppled in the 600 to 800 blocks of Ocean Boulevard West at Holden Beach over the weekend. The barrier island community has seen a lot of erosion this fall.



## Good Neighbors

Residents of the Brick Landing community are pitching in to help raise funds for one of their newest neighbors. Read about leukemia patient Alyssa Granados on Page 6-B.

## Beach Walker's Exposed Buns Stump Sunset Beach Officials

Sunset Beach officials want a law on the books that will stop an area man from walking the beach in nothing but a thong, but so far haven't come up with a solution.

"We have got a man who prances up and down the beach in just a thong, a jock strap, really," Town Administrator Linda Fluegel said. "He has continued this right on after the season."

She says the man, a Longwood

resident and member of a nearby nudist colony, refuses to leave the beach when asked to do so by police officers or others. He also does things to attract attention to himself, such as kicking sand on sunbathers' blankets, she said.

When confronted by a police officer, she said, "He asked 'Have you got something in an ordinance?' We don't and so he refuses to leave."

The man's appearances on the

beach have prompted repeated complaints to the town hall and the police department by local residents and visitors to the beach.

The town has also received similar complaints about women wearing skimpy swimsuits, she said. "They're saying Sunset Beach used to be a family beach and that it's getting to not be that way any more."

When the first complaints came

in, Mrs. Fluegel contacted the town manager at Wrightsville Beach, where a similar issue had developed. But the manager there said the town was never able to adopt a beach apparel ordinance, she said, because there was so much controversy over what is considered indecent. "They never could get the language straight," she said.

Town Attorney Michael Isenberg said the N.C. League of Municipalities is trying to develop a model ordinance with language that would withstand a legal challenge on the grounds of its constitutionality. He had expected to receive that information from the League prior to the town council's Nov. 5 meeting, when the proposed ordinance was scheduled for discussion, but didn't.

Attorneys with the N.C. League of Municipalities did not return the Beacon's phone calls this week.

Mrs. Fluegel said she's promised Police Chief J.B. Buell that she'll keep trying. She said she thinks the town should adopt the best ordinance it can come up with and then if anyone wants to challenge it, let them.

"If they win it, they win," she said. "But I think that if a majority of the people don't want to look at this guy's buns, then they shouldn't have to."

Meanwhile, Mayor Mason Barber told council members, "It looks like he'll be able to continue to strut."

## Recyclers Looking For New Site In Shallotte

BY DOUG RUTTER

A recycling collection center similar to ones at Calabash, Sunset Beach and Holden Beach that was scheduled to open this week in Shallotte has been put on hold.

Leaders of the recycling effort had planned to park a collection trailer in the Hill's food store parking lot in downtown Shallotte and open it to the public today (Thursday). It was to be the seventh recycling station in the county.

Those plans were scratched Monday, however, when organizers of the effort were told they would have to find a different location for the trailer, said Bill Potts, a member of the South Brunswick Interchurch Council's recycling committee.

Potts said the committee received a letter from Hill's in August saying the trailer could be parked at the south end of the parking lot. Committee members were pleased with the location, he said, and didn't look for any other possible sites.

With volunteers ready to staff the center and a ribbon-cutting ceremony scheduled this afternoon, Potts said the group was told

"We'll find another site, by golly."

—Bill Potts, member Recycling committee

Monday that the trailer could not be parked at the site.

Dewey Hill, owner of Hill's food stores, said the area where the trailer was supposed to be parked was recently paved to provide parking spaces for a new movie rental shop that was added to the south end of the building.

He said the remaining land at that end of the parking lot is too wet for a trailer. "The land down there is too boggy," Hill said. "You couldn't park anything on it."

Hill said there is no other place in the parking lot appropriate for the recycling trailer. He pointed out that a drive-through market in the lot was torn down recently to provide better visibility of the shops in the complex from U.S. 17.

To get a recycling trailer in Shallotte, the South Brunswick Interchurch Council and the town had joined forces, with the church group lining up volunteers to run the center and the town footing the bill.

Recycling trailers are filled with large containers where people can place different types of recyclable items. Organizers of the Shallotte center had planned to accept newspapers, plastic bottles and jugs, aluminum cans and glass.

The group had planned to open the trailer six days a week for six hours a day and to use volunteers from the Interchurch Council and Shallotte community to assist recyclers at the site. Shallotte Aldermen had earlier agreed to pay \$200 per month for the trailer on a three-month trial basis.

The lack of a site for the trailer has temporarily stalled the effort to bring voluntary recycling to Shallotte.

Potts said a group of volunteers from Camp United Methodist Church had agreed to build stairs for the trailer Tuesday in advance of the grand opening.

Monday, the recycling committee called off the ribbon-cutting ceremony, canceled the volunteers' work project and sent back the lumber for it that had been donated by Keep America Beautiful Inc.

Despite the problems with the location of the trailer, Potts said Monday he's not discouraged. "We'll find another site, by golly," he said.

He said the committee would like to park the trailer near a business or shopping area so it would be convenient for people to use. The group now hopes to open the trailer in December.

Hill said he plans to help the group find a new site for the recycling center. "I hope they can find some other place for the trailer," he said. "It's an excellent idea and we're for it."

While the project is temporarily on hold, the recycling committee is still looking for people willing to help at the center once it opens.

People interested in volunteering at the recycling center can contact Lena Mintz at 754-6725 or Sky Bramley at 579-7955.

## Signs Indicate Transition To Four Laning Of U.S. 17

BY TERRY POPE

The impact of four-laning U.S. 17 through Brunswick County remains to be seen, but there are signs that area businesses expect to benefit from the project.

Literally, there are signs. Eight permits for billboards along the new U.S. 17 route were issued in October by the Brunswick County Building Inspections Department, bringing the total of sign permits issued during the year to 10.

Seven of those permits were issued to Brunswick Outdoor Advertising of Castle Hayne on Oct. 26.

The company plans to erect seven 300 square-foot signs on the U.S. 17 route: four in Winnabow, one in Bolivia, and two on the Shallotte bypass. The Winds Corporation of Ocean Isle Beach acquired a permit to erect a sign at the intersection of U.S. 17 and Four Mile Road south of Shallotte.

"Anytime you have a bypass going around a town, your businesses need billboards telling people what is in that town," said Glenn Ormsby, of Brunswick Outdoor Advertising. "Whether it's a hotel, fast-food restaurant or whatever."

The four-laning of U.S. 17 through Brunswick County is expected to route traffic heading south off of Interstate 40 from Wilmington to the South Brunswick Islands and other South Carolina destinations. The Shallotte bypass will route traffic away from the main business district on a four-lane route west of the town limits.

Ormsby said he realizes that he got the jump on his competitors in the advertising business when he applied for the permits. To apply for a permit, the state must approve each proposed site and a lease must be obtained from the owner of the land. A state inspector visits each proposed site with the ad-

vertising representative before the county permits can be obtained.

Location of the seven proposed billboards for Brunswick Outdoor are:

- U.S. 17 south, on right at Lane's TV Repair just past Harrelson's south of Shallotte;
  - U.S. 17 south, on left at Martin Seller's Garage north of Shallotte;
  - U.S. 17 north, on right at L.V. Walton's tax office in Winnabow;
  - U.S. 17 north, on left at Winnabow Video;
  - U.S. 17 north, on left at Oree's Grill in Bolivia; and
  - U.S. 17 north, on right at Trading Post past L.V. Walton's tax office in Winnabow.
- "It does have something to do with people coming off of I-40," Ormsby said. "I think that after leaving Wilmington they'll be taking four lanes all the way to Myrtle Beach."

Permits for signs are usually obtained before the space has been rented. Ormsby said if he didn't think the area was going to "boom" from a business standpoint, then he wouldn't be applying for sign permits in Brunswick County. The time frame for installing the signs depends on the progress of the bypass and the four-laning of U.S. 17.

"It's up to the state, whenever they get the roads," Ormsby said.

There is no sign ordinance in Brunswick County. The only regulations in place are those imposed by the state regarding setback requirements from road rights of way.

Mostly, private businesses in the Shallotte area will benefit from the billboards he plans to install.

"Anybody can buy advertising to put on the billboards," Ormsby said. "If Brunswick County wanted to buy advertising to promote the area then we would do that."

## Deadlines And Delivery Earlier Next Week

The Brunswick Beacon will publish one day earlier next week because of the Thanksgiving holiday.

Local subscribers should get their copies in the mail on Wednesday instead of Thursday, since there is no mail delivery on Thanksgiving Day.

All news and advertising deadlines will be a day earlier in order to print the newspaper ahead of schedule.

Deadline for real estate advertising is 5 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 15. All other display and classified advertising must be placed no later than noon Monday, Nov. 19.

Routine news items should be submitted no later than Friday, Nov. 16.

The Beacon office will be closed Thursday to observe Thanksgiving.