

# Budget Up For Adoption Friday

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budget Friday depends on the status of House Bill 111 (see related story in this issue) and what it will allow the county to charge property owners to help finance its solid waste disposal.

Holden was hopeful Tuesday that legislation would be in place before Friday's meeting to allow the county to charge property owners an "improved" parcel fee, a speculative figure of around \$40 per lot that contains a dwelling or establishment, as opposed to \$14 to \$17 per parcel.

If such legislation is not in place by Friday, Holden warned, then the board would begin another round of cuts. He wouldn't say which departments may face the ax this time.

"There will be no sacred cows," Holden said.

In addition to Ms. Alexander's position, the board also voted to eliminate those of assistant director of operations/water management coordinator, held by Pearly Vereen of Exum, a former Democratic county commissioner; and environmental health supervisor I in the Brunswick County Health Department, held by Gary McDonald of Supply.

Hart said McDonald was in Raleigh last Monday attending a class as part of his job training when the board voted to fire him.

"He learned Tuesday about the motion (to fire him)," said Hart.

At a budget workshop last week, Commissioners Holden, Jerry Jones and Donald Shaw voted to do away with the positions. Board members Frankie Rabon and Gene Pinkerton voted against the motion.

Chairman Holden said the cuts were made to eliminate top-heaviness within departments, a follow-through to the recommendations made in a recently commissioned water system study. As a result of

that study, the board voted to follow the outside firm's report and to fire two supervisors within the water department.

Ms. Alexander's duties as clerk will be reassigned to the county manager's secretary, Kelly Barefoot. Ms. Alexander is black and Ms. Barefoot is white. Commissioners who voted for the move said it was to cut costs and that neither race nor party affiliation played a role in their decision.

"They just seem to be laying off the Democrats," charged Hart, who said Ms. Alexander was a model employee. "There have been some unfair labor practices, harassment and threatening of employees. I asked that they bring the employees back."

Hart said he will talk to District Attorney Rex Gore this week about investigating the commissioners' personnel actions for their racist and political tones.

"If I had to pick which is the stronger, I'd have to say it's political," said Hart. "It appears the majority of them are Democrats. The ones I know are Democrats."

According to figures released by the Brunswick County Board of Election office Monday, of the 14 county employees facing layoffs, seven are white and three are black. The race is not available for four other workers facing layoff.

Partywise, the number of Democrats facing layoffs outnumber Republicans nine to one with another four workers unregistered, according to the figures.

The disparity follows the pattern for county employees. Of 485 county workers, Democrats outnumber Republicans 356 to 62, with 59 not registered and eight unaffiliated with a party, the figures show.

Of the 34 workers facing a cut in their hours, 15 are Democrats, sev-

en are Republicans and 12 are not registered. Of those 34 workers, 11 are white, 11 are black and the race for 12 is not recorded.

Holden said he asked that the figures be made public to refute accusations that the board was making cuts based on political affiliation.

Figures show that Brunswick County's population is 35 percent Republican, yet only 12 percent of county workers are Republicans, Holden noted.

"I was pretty much amazed by that figure," Holden said.

A number of those workers facing hourly cuts are Department of Social Services' 30 Chore workers, who provide in-home care for elderly patients. To cut costs, their hours will be trimmed from 40 to 36 per week.

Last year, the county supplemented the chore program with \$87,436 but will allocate no money toward the program this year.

DSS Director Jamie Orrock said commissioners want the chore program to operate on its own.

"I think we're better off to offer 90 percent than nothing," said Orrock. "We no longer feel like we can serve everyone. There's just not enough money out there."

Orrock said he believes his department's budget could have been worse.

"I think they've (commissioners) had the toughest budget decisions to make than in any year I've seen," said Orrock.

Five vacant chore positions must go unfilled under the new budget, he said.

DSS Adult Services Supervisor Evelyn Johnson said cutting chore workers' hours may have a harmful effect on the elderly clients.

"What's going to happen, with a lot of them, is they're going to end up in nursing homes," she said.



STATE TRANSPORTATION Secretary Thomas J. Harrelson (center) meets with members of Brunswick County Travel Package, a local tourism development effort, on new road signs that will help direct tourists to Brunswick County beaches. From the left are Allan Dameron, Annette Odom, Harrelson, Susanne Sartelle and Terry Barbee.

## Traffic Signs To Point Way To Brunswick County Beaches

Motorists on Interstate 40 soon will see traffic signs pointing the way to the beaches of Brunswick County.

The signs are being erected to help reduce the number of vehicles on I-40 that crowd on to N.C. 132 in Wilmington, according to a news release from the N.C. Dept. of Transportation. Highway 132 is at the eastern most terminus of I-40 and has seen a large increase in traffic since I-40 opened last year.

New signs on I-40 at the Castle Hayne exit (No. 414) will direct motorists headed to beaches in Brunswick County south on N.C. 133 and then west of downtown Wilmington to U.S. 17 at the N.C. Battleship Memorial.

Once on U.S. 17, motorists will see a sign with "Brunswick County beaches" printed at the top, with a list of specific South Brunswick Islands beaches and their respective distances. Signage for Oak Island beaches is also being improved.

A similar sign will be located on U.S. 17 just north of the South Carolina state line for motorists headed into North Carolina. A number of smaller signs on U.S. 17 pointing the way to the beaches will be replaced with larger signs with eight-inch-high letters.

The signs are being erected by the N.C. Department of Transportation's traffic services unit from Wilmington and are expected to be completed in about two months, the release indicated.

## Filing Period Opens Friday

(Continued From Page 1-A)

**Boiling Spring Lakes**  
Boiling Spring Lakes voters will elect a mayor and two commissioners.

Mayor H.C. Boswell's post will be up for grabs along with the town board seats presently occupied by Robert Glenn Long and Steven Mark Stewart.

Town commissioners are elected to terms of four years, while the mayor is elected every two years.

**Long Beach**  
Long Beach voters will elect a mayor and three commissioners in November but could head to the polls earlier for a primary, should enough candidates file for office.

John Vereen presently serves as mayor. Commissioner seats up for grabs in November are those held by David Drummond, Kevin Bell and Jean Gray.

The mayor of Long Beach is elected every two years, while commissioners serve four-year terms.

A primary election will be held at Long Beach if more than two people file for mayor or if more than six file for the three available seats on the town board.

**Yaupon Beach**  
Three of the six seats on the Yaupon Beach Board of Commissioners will be up for election.

They are occupied by Joseph Broyles, James L. Poole Sr. and May Moore, who presently serves as mayor. Commissioners are elected to four-year terms, and the full board then appoints the mayor.

**Caswell Beach**  
At Caswell Beach, voters will elect someone to the mayor's post

presently held by Jack Cook and the commissioner seat occupied by George F. Kassler Jr.

Town board members are elected for terms of four years, and the mayor is elected every two years.

**Southport**  
Southport voters will elect a mayor and three people to the board of aldermen this fall. Candidates for alderman run from one of two wards but are elected at large for terms of four years.

Town board seats up for grabs in November include the Ward II seats now held by Nelson Adams and Paul Sweeney. The Ward I seat held by Mary Childs also comes up for election.

The mayor's post, now held by C.B. "Cash" Caroon, is filled every two years. The mayor may run from either ward.

**Leland**  
In Leland, voters will elect a mayor for two years and two people to the town council for four-year terms.

The mayor's post is presently held by Russell Baldwin. Lynette Carlisle and Jane Gilbert occupy the town council seats up for grabs in November.

S.L. Doty, a former mayor of Kure Beach, has already announced his plans to run for mayor of Leland.

**Sandy Creek**  
The two town council seats held by Willie Milliner and Ray Flynn Jr. are up for grabs this fall in Sandy Creek.

Council members are elected to four-year terms, and the town council appoints the mayor.

**Belville**

Voters will elect a mayor and two commissioners this fall in Belville.

Ken Messer presently serves as mayor. Trindalyn Boswell and Wanda Watson hold the town board seats coming up for election.

The mayor is elected every two years, and commissioners serve four years.

**Navassa**  
The mayor's post presently held by Louis "Bobby" Brown and three seats on the town council are up for grabs this fall in Navassa.

Council seats held by Thomas Merrick, Walter Williams and Eulis Willis will be up for election this year.

Navassa elects a mayor every two years, while town council members serve for four years.

**Dosher Hospital**  
Smithville Township voters will fill three seats this year on the Doshier Hospital Board of Trustees.

Candidates elected to the seats currently held by Evelyn Butler and Charles Johnson will serve six years. The person elected to the seat that was vacated by Doug Ledgett will serve a four-year term.

**Sanitary District**  
This will be the first year for an election in the Southeast Brunswick Sanitary District, located between Southport and Oak Island.

Two of the five seats on the sanitary district board are up for election in November. They are presently held by Jimmy Price and Jamie Wilson. Terms are for four years.

## Forecast Sounds Like Summer

Near normal temperatures and rainfall are in the forecast for the South Brunswick Islands.

Jackson Canady of Shallotte Point said he expects temperatures to range from around 70 degrees at night to the upper 80s during the daytime, with about three-quarters of an inch of rain.

For the period of June 18 through 24, he recorded 1.03 inches of rain.

Temperatures ranged from a high of 93 degrees on June 22 and 23 to a low of 67 degrees on June 24.

A daily average high of 89 degrees combined with an average nightly low of 74 degrees for a daily average temperature of 81 degrees, which Canady said was about three degrees above the average for this time of year.

**AT GRISSETTOWN BRING HOME THE BEACON**

On Sale At GRISSETTOWN SERVICE STATION RANDY'S PORK CENTER WENDELL SMITH'S

## Committee Of 100 Organizes

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has done is invest in shell buildings. "It's a sales tool," he said. "It's not just bricks and mortar."

Wells said an industry shops for a location the same way a lady shops for a dress. A lady will not shop at a store that has nothing to look at, and an industry will not locate in an area that has nothing to offer.

The Columbus County group has already built and sold 24,000-square-foot shell buildings at Lake Waccamaw and Tabor City. Another is planned at Fair Bluff, and the committee is considering an industrial park.

Ben DeBlois, vice president for administrative services at Brunswick Community College, said the Committee of 100 and community college system share a common goal of improving the quality of life.

DeBlois said there presently isn't a lot of opportunity in Brunswick County for college graduates. As a result, he said many of BCC's top students leave the area to pursue their careers.

The Committee of 100 can help create opportunities so local residents don't have to leave their hometowns to find good jobs. "We want to be able to keep the best that we have here in the county," DeBlois said.

Wells, who owns a car dealership in Whiteville, said apathy has been the biggest problem in his county. Quoting the late humorist Will Rogers, he said, "Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if

you just sit there."

Bobby Davis, chairman of the local steering committee that helped organize the Committee of 100, stressed that there is strength in numbers. "This is definitely not a spectator organization," he said.

By the close of the organizational meeting, the committee had more than 100 individual, corporate or organizational members signed up. Charter memberships in the South Brunswick Islands Committee of 100 will be accepted through July 23, when the group meets to elect a nine-member board of directors. Annual dues are \$100.

Charter members include the following: Dr. Charles Locke, Sunset Beach and Twin Lakes Inc., Powell and Payne Attorneys, The Brunswick Hospital, Hoyt Hucks, Johnson Architects, Dr. Tim Gible, King's Appliance, Simmons Realty, Gregory Rupp D.D.S., David and Kay Batten, Southport-Oak Island Committee of 100, Jon Langston, Dos Amigos, Marshall Tatum, Island Realty, Sea Trail Corp., Coastal Drug Store, Yarbrough-Farr Construction Co.;

Dean Walters, Cindy Langston, LaDane Bullington, Collier Gas Company, Shallotte Insurance Agency, South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce, First Investors, Brock, Padgett and Chandler C.P.A., Lewis Stanley, Sand Dollar Realty, The Winds Beach Resort, Joe's Photography, Burger King, Elroy Stanley, Shady Park Exxon, Ouida Hewett, Paula's A Touch of Ele-

gance, Joe and Moe's Auto Service, W.T. Bowens, Brunswick County Resources Development Commission, Dr. Lee Langston;

B. Kirby and Company, A.L. Morrison Construction Co., United Carolina Bank, Gordon's Net Works, Joyner & Son Electric, Dale Edwards, Brunswick Funeral Service, Security Savings and Loan, Nationwide Insurance, Cellular One of Coastal Carolina, Houston and Associates, Village Pines Properties, Coastal Insurance and Realty, W.A. "Bill" Stanley, Century 21-Ocean Isle Properties, Southern National Bank, Brunswick Internal Medicine Associates, J.M. Parker & Sons, Sandfiddler Restaurant, *The Brunswick Beacon*;

Davis Milligan C.P.A., Brunswick Community College, Steve Stanley, Design Plus Architects, Marsh Harbour Marina, Brunswick Travel Inc., E.O. Bailey Construction Co., NCNB, Lowell's Bookworm, H&R Block, Holden Brothers Produce, Atlantic Telephone Membership Corp., Dr. Marilyn Boehm, Ocean Isle IGA, Larry Cheek D.D.S., Calabash Family Medicine, Brunswick Electric Membership Corp., Prescription For Excellence, Steve Mann;

MAC Construction, Oceanside Corp., Mary Stanley, attorney Kenneth Bridges, Princess House Products, WCCA radio station, Golf Tours For Gals, Wells Oldsmobile, Margaret Means, Coastal Printing and Graphics and Kirby's Sizzling Sirloin Steakhouse.

## BACK IN THE SADDLE AT BEACH

### Ulrich Hired As Interim Manager

BY DOUG RUTTER

Holden Beach's first town manager was back in the saddle this week. Gus Ulrich has been hired as interim town manager and interim town clerk until the Holden Beach Board of Commissioners can hire a town manager.

The town board voted to employ Ulrich during a special meeting last Thursday. He started working Monday.

Mayor Pro tem Gloria Barrett, who serves on the personnel committee, said Ulrich will be paid \$14 per hour and receive no fringe benefits.

"We're still looking for a new manager," she said. "I was just glad he was available and willing to come help us out."

Town officials aren't sure how long Ulrich's services will be needed. After receiving approximately 100 applications, commissioners have narrowed the field to about five and have conducted several in-

terviews.

Mayor John Tandy said one man who was interviewed twice for the manager's position turned down the town's offer mainly because of family circumstances.

Tandy said the town board plans to conduct four interviews Friday, but he couldn't say for sure when a manager will be hired. "It could be 30 days. It could be six months. But hopefully it will be somewhere around 60 days."

Commissioners have been searching for a manager since January, when Blake Proctor resigned under pressure from the town board.

Deputy Town Clerk Diane Clark was named interim town manager immediately after Proctor's resignation. However, she resigned May 31 due to an illness in the family.

Ulrich, who had served as town manager in Garner for 17 years before moving to Brunswick County, was the top administrator at Holden Beach from Jan. 9, 1989, through Aug. 3, 1990.

In announcing his resignation, Ulrich had said the responsibilities of the job as he wanted to see it done required more of his time than he was willing to give.



ULRICH

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