

## State To Let Contract Friday For Paving Bypass Of Bolivia

State Board of Transportation members are expected to award the contract Friday to pave the U.S. 17 bypass of Bolivia, the last link in the four-laning of U.S. 17 from the New Hanover County line south to Shallotte.

Work is expected to begin on the 7.45-mile project in late August and is to be completed by December 1, 1992. U.S. 17 will be relocated from southwest of Galloway Road (S.R. 1401) to the intersection of U.S. 17 north of Bolivia.

S.T. Wooten Construction Co. of Wilson is the apparent low bidder on the project. While the state transportation department's estimated project cost was \$3.73 million, Wooten bid \$3.6 million. The state received 10 bids.

Bids for four-laning U.S. 17 from south of Shallotte to the South Carolina state line are expected to be awarded later this year.

At its meeting Friday in Raleigh the state transportation board is also expected to approve:

■Conveyance of .48 acre of right-of-way residue from Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Marlowe and Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Gore, valued at \$3,000, to Johnnie Gore and others in part settlement of Johnnie Gore's right-of-way claim.

■Expenditure of another \$20,000 for preliminary engineering and utilities on U.S. 17 from N.C. 211 north of Supply to N.C. 87 at Bell Swamp to reflect estimated cost. Previously \$635,000 had been approved.

■Expenditure of another \$100,000 for preliminary engineering on U.S. 17 from N.C. 211 at Supply to the South Carolina state line, to reflect estimated cost. The board has previously approved \$1.5 million for the work.

■Expenditure of another \$15,000 for extending S.R. 1712 beyond Striplap Hose Company Inc. to serve All Metal Inc. The board had previously approved reimbursing Brunswick County \$95,000 to extend the road to Striplap, which recently closed.



Heading Up And Away!

Eric See spent much of last Thursday struggling to get his kite up in the air—and keep it there. From Bern Heights, Ohio, he was vacationing with his family at Ocean Isle Beach.

## SPOUTS CAUSED NO DAMAGE

### Above Average Rains Expected

South Brunswick Islands residents can expect above average rainfall in the coming week.

Shallotte Point meteorologist Jackson Canady said Tuesday the weather outlook calls for above average rainfall and near normal temperatures.

He expects at least one inch of rain, coupled with temperatures averaging around 70 degrees at night and climbing to an average of around 90 degrees during the day.

For the period July 23-29, Canady recorded 2.64 inches of rain.

The maximum high of 94 degrees was recorded on July 23, while the low of 74 degrees occurred on July 28.

He said a daily high of 91 degrees combined with an average nightly low of 77 degrees for a daily average temperature of 84 degrees, approximately 3 degrees above average for this time of year.

#### Water Spouts Spotted

Recent warmer temperatures caus-

ed two large waterspouts to form Saturday morning off Shallotte Inlet causing alarm, but no damage, according to the National Weather Service.

Eyewitnesses said the spouts formed about 10:30 a.m. four miles south around the inlet. They moved at about 18 mph parallel to the coast of Holden Beach before dissipating about 10 minutes later.

According to Jim Huddins, meteorologist at the National Weather Service in Wilmington, water spouts are formed by a large cumulus cloud over the water. They occur frequently in the summer months when the water temperature is warmer and are not necessarily associated with a thunderstorm.

Since water spouts are located in a small area, the winds only reach about 75 mph. Boaters should take precautions and stay away from the area.

Water spouts are more common in Carteret County than the South Brunswick Islands, Huddins said.

## Backlog Feared By Health Dept.

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It's difficult finding a qualified person who can fill the shoes of a trained health specialist, said Crowder.

"We always hope that we can hire somebody that's authorized," he said, "but really, we've not been able to do that in the past. There's not that many registered specialists in Brunswick County."

The recent resignations leaves the department with one part-time and one full-time health specialist to conduct soil evaluations. Crowder and Bruce Whitrow, program specialist whose job was redefined by the Brunswick County Board of Health last month, will fill in when possible.

The department has three health specialists who are still trainees and are not currently authorized to conduct soil evaluations or to issue permits, said Crowder. One of those workers may qualify within a few weeks, he said.

Once an untrained person is hired, it takes from six to nine months before the person can become authorized to issue septic tank permits, said Crowder.

"Up until last year, we did not have a full and authorized staff for

quite some time," said Crowder. Now the department faces a rebuilding period, he said. The vacant positions have been advertised statewide.

Animal control has also been seriously shorthanded since July 18, said Ms. Hatcher.

Jim Haggler, animal control officer II, who was seriously injured in an auto accident, returned to work this week, she said.

When Joel Brewer resigned to accept a position with the Department of Social Services, it created a vacant animal control officer I position until Charles McClain was hired to replace him this week, said Ms. Hatcher.

Animal Control Supervisor Zelma Babson was fired in June and has appealed that decision. No one has replaced her.

"Remaining on staff and trying to cover all of Brunswick County was animal control officer II, Robert Grissett," said Ms. Hatcher.

Animal shelter attendant Dennis Harpster covered emergency calls during the manpower shortage, she said.

As of Monday, animal control "can and will perform on its regular schedule," said Ms. Hatcher.

## Bids For BCC Auditorium Come In Under Projection

Bids received Tuesday for construction of a 1,500 seat auditorium at Brunswick Community College were competitive, said public information officer Ann Marie Bellamy.

Apparent low base bids totaled \$2.6 million, significantly below the \$3.2 million project cost estimated by Boney & Associates of Wilmington, architects for the project. Mrs. Bellamy said it is possible the college will be able to award contracts for one or more bid alternates as a result.

Leslie N. Boney Jr., partner, said he was "well pleased" with the outcome of the bidding.

Architects will review all bids for compliance with specifications, said Mrs. Bellamy, before presenting them to the BCC Board of Trustees for consideration.

Nine general contractors submitted bids under the multiphase program, with the apparent low base bid of \$1,997,000 entered by Hatcher Construction of Fayetteville.

Nine mechanical contractors and seven electrical and seven plumbing contractors also submitted bids, said Mrs. Bellamy.

Submitting the apparent low base bids were Ashley Electric, Whiteville, electrical, \$244,618; AMECO, Lumberton, mechanical, \$264,884; and Town & Country, Fayetteville, plumbing, \$125,000.

Participating with Boney in the bid opening Tuesday afternoon were Phil Albano, coordinator of facility services with the N.C. Dept. of Community Colleges and Ken Phelps and George Jernigan of Boney & Associates.

Some of the alternates included in the bid packages were lighting enhancements for the parking/access areas; a sidewalk to an existing parking area; paving of the access drive; an upgraded sound system; and staging, rigging and curtains.

To be built with funds remaining from a county general bond issue, the auditorium will be named in honor of Odell Williamson. The Ocean Isle Beach developer is giving the college a \$500,000 endowment to pay for management of the facility.

The auditorium, designed generally after the smaller Kenan Auditorium at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, will have two levels of seating and a fly loft for scenery storage and handling. It will be accessible to the physically handicapped.

Non-profit organizations will be allowed to book use of the community facility at no charge. Expected uses include BCC graduation exercises, the Miss Brunswick County Pageant and concerts by groups such as the N.C. Symphony.

## Animal Control Supervisor May Appeal Board's Action

BY TERRY POPE

An animal control supervisor fired from her job in June may carry her appeal to the State Personnel Commission.

Zelma Babson, an 11-year veteran of the Brunswick County Animal Control Division, was fired on June 25 by Health Director Michael Rhodes. His personnel action was upheld by the Brunswick County Board of Health last Monday following a four-hour closed door meeting.

"Naturally, we're very disappointed with the decision," said Shallotte attorney Shelia McLamb, who represents Ms. Babson. "I'm not sure at this point if she will appeal, but she probably will."

Ms. McLamb said notice of the board's action had arrived by mail at her office Monday, postmarked July 25. However, she was out of town and did not return until Tuesday.

When contacted at her home Tuesday evening, Ms. Babson said she had not received a copy of the official notification from the health board but was awaiting word from Ms. McLamb.

"The only notification that I've received is through your newspaper," said Ms. Babson. "Their five days was up yesterday (Monday)."

Rhodes said Tuesday that official

notification had been mailed on time.

"I would call her attorney," he advised.

Ms. McLamb said her client has 30 days from July 25 to file a grievance with the State Personnel Commission.

All county animal control workers fall under a competitive service employee policy adopted by the State Personnel Commission in June 1990. The health director is responsible for personnel action, but if an employee feels the action to be

unfair, he or she can appeal the decision to the board of health.

If the employee disagrees with the board's decision, he or she may file a grievance with the Personnel Commission. The matter does not go before Brunswick County Commissioners.

"Her history of employment with the Brunswick County Health Department is outstanding," said Ms. McLamb. "She is an excellent investigator. Right now she's looking for work in Brunswick County because this is her home."

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Established Nov. 1, 1962  
Telephone 754-6890  
Published Every Thursday  
At 4709 Main Street  
Shallotte, N.C. 28459

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## Other Municipal Candidates Listed

(Continued From Page 1-A)

election to a Ward II seat.

Gregory P. Holley filed for a seat on the Boiling Spring Lakes Board of Commissioners.

Jamie Wilson is seeking election to the seat to which he was appointed on the Southeast Brunswick Sanitary District Board.

#### Northern Brunswick

In the northern part of the county, Navassa Mayor Louis "Bobby" Brown and Councilman Walter Williams have filed for re-election.

Leland Councilwoman Lynette Carlisle also filed for re-election to the town board.

Markland S. Carper is seeking election to the Belville Board of Commissioners.

#### Candidates Listed

Other candidates include the following:

**Calabash:** Jon Sanborn, commissioner, District II.

**Sunset Beach:** Mason Barber, mayor; Cherri Check, council.

**Ocean Isle Beach:** Betty Williamson, mayor; Debbie Fox, commissioner.

**Shallotte:** David Gauger and Joe "Junior" Hewett, alderman.

**Holden Beach:** James Shafor, mayor; Sid Swarts, David Sandifer and Larry McDowell, commissioner.

**Varnamtown:** Judy Galloway, mayor.

**Boiling Spring Lakes:** Steven Mark Stewart, mayor.

**Southport:** C.B. "Cash" Caroon and Norman R. Holden, mayor; Mary H. "Meczie" Childs, alderman, Ward I; Nelson Adams and William W. Delaney II, alderman, Ward II.

**Long Beach:** H. Michael Oxford and Joan Altman, mayor; Jean Gray, William D. Easley III, Bobbie Larrison, Carlton "Gene" Frazier and James R. Somers, commissioner.

**Caswell Beach:** Jack Cook, mayor; Esten "Jonnie" Gillis, commissioner.

**Leland:** Rev. S.L. Doty Jr., mayor; Jane Gilbert and Thomas Hyatt, council.

**Sandy Creek:** Louis A. Blouir, Brenda Gaye Mitchell and Carolyn Hamilton, council.

**Belville:** Kenneth D. Messer Sr., mayor.

**Navassa:** Eulis Willis, council.

**Southeast Brunswick Sanitary District Board:** Lucille Laster.

**Dosher Hospital Trustees:** Charles D. Johnson, Gib Barbee and Eugene Tomlinson Jr.

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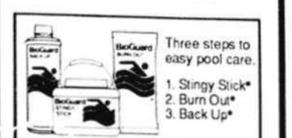


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