Beach Owners Meet Saturday

Property owner groups at Sunset Beach and Holden Beach will meet Saturday to discuss a variety of issues affecting their communities.

The Holden Beach Property Owners Association (HBPOA) will elect four people to the board of directors when it meets at 10 a.m. in

Members also will discuss a "Meet The Candidates Night" for Holden Beach candidates running for elected office this fall.

HBPOA directors will meet at 9 a.m. and again after the regular meeting to elect officers. A barbecue dinner for members will be served

Sunset Beach Taxpayers Association (SBTA) President Cletus Waldmiller said members will continue to discuss the group's fight against a high-rise bridge to the island when they meet Saturday at the

The SBTA is trying to collect legal fees it has accumulated during its

fight to keep the community's one-lane pontoon bridge, Waldmiller said. Recent annexations by the Sunset Beach Town Council also will be discussed during the business meeting at 10:30 a.m. Fellowship starts at

Property owners in the Whispering Heights community near Holden Beach will meet Saturday from 6 p.m. until 10 p.m. at the Lockwood Folly Community Building. A barbecue dinner will be served following the business meeting.

Extended School ProgramAvailable

The Extended School Day program of the Brunswick County Schools provides an alternative for out-of-school teen-agers and adults who want to resume their high school education.

Interested students can register anytime in the West Brunswick High School Library between 3:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., also the hours for classes.

Extended School Day offers small classes, flexible hours, individualized instruction and counseling to meet the needs of non-traditional students, said coordinator Brenda F. Council.

In addition, students elible under the Job Training Partnership Act benefit from job hunting and job survival skills training, placement assistance and follow-up services.

To enroll in Extended Day, a student must be at least 16 years old, eligible for placement in grades nine through 12, and no longer enrolled in regular day school.

For more information contact Ms. Council at 754-4338 or 754-5642.

House Sat. & Sun. Sept 21-22 **RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE** SEPT. 21-9:00 AM-1:00 PM Shallotte National Guard Armory Open to the public and those in-terested in the guard. Refreshments will be served. The men and equipment will be on hand for your inspec tion and questions Nat'l. Guard Recruiter Sgt. Kenny Clewis will be here to answer questions.

Open

Transportation will also be provided to Whiteville Sunday Sept. 22 for the ASVAB Military entrance Test. For more information call 754-6821 PLEASE COME, WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Shallotte Swamp Project Hopes To Zap Mosquitoes

BY TERRY POPE

If it seems like there are more mosquitoes around your home this year, you've guessed right. Heavy rain this summer has

turned coastal Brunswick County into a breeding ground for the pests. Snagging the Shallotte Swamp should help some areas, said Rick Hickman, of Brunswick County Mosquito Control. But it may be too late to offer residents relief from

this year's healthy crop, he added. "I've never seen it this bad," said Hickman, "The last time we've had this kind of summer rainfall, I wasn't even alive."

Mosquitoes can breed in even the smallest amount of water, which is why homeowners should keep their yards clear of artificial containers, empty birdbaths regularly, clean out clogged gutters and dig those drainage ditches ahead of time.

"I can't seem to make them realize that when it comes to mosquitoes, they are their own worst enemies," said Hickman. "We accumulate things."

Mosquito larvae can hatch by the thousands within five days. The department has run five sprayer trucks to cover the 900 square miles of Brunswick County territory in an effort to catch up with the mosquito population, he said.

The reason we're making such little headway is because the ground is saturated," said Hickman. "It's soaked.'

Brunswick County received a \$29,000 N.C. Water Management Grant in June to snag debris from the Shallotte Swamp to open drainage areas that are clogged there and may be breeding mosquitoes.

The area lies south of Shallotte

and feeds into the Shallotte River. The project resembles the work done on the CawCaw Swamp last year near Calabash. Workers have already started on the Shallotte project, said County Manager David Clegg

"They're right out there in the middle of it," said Clegg.

Clegg doesn't know how long it will take to complete the project. The contractor has been hired on a fixed fee, he said.

"A lot of times, you don't know when you'll be finished until you actually get in there and see," Clegg said.

Residents can also help defend against mosquitoes by cutting off lights that attract them-especially those near the home; by raking leaves from ditches so water will flow; by picking up drink cans and bottles along the roadside that might

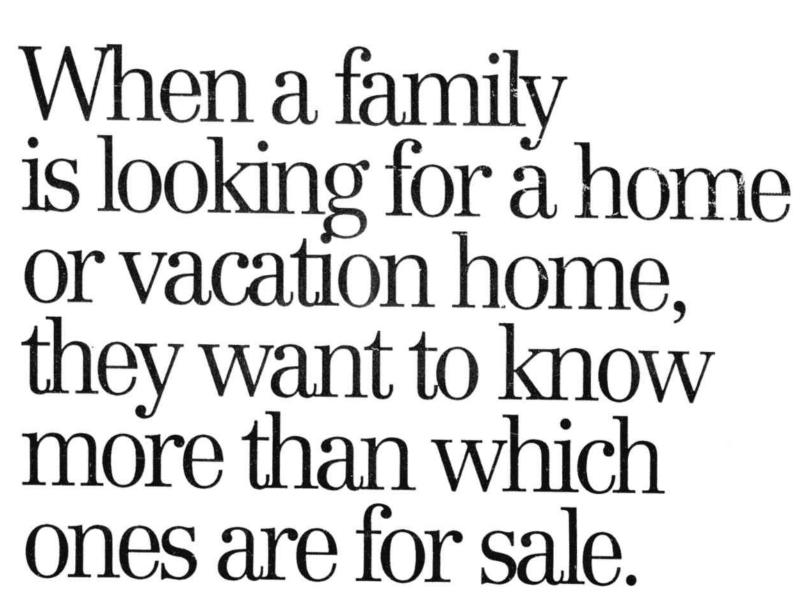
be holding water; and by dumping trash in the landfill instead of the woods, said Hickman.

Hickman said the heavy rain began falling July 4 and hasn't stopped since. The hardest hit area has been the Holden Beach community, where seven inches of rain fell the last part of July to hatch out an abundant crop of mosquitoes there, he said.

We got beat 45-0 in the first quarter," said Hickman. "It wasn't a lack of effort. We tried. Everyone of us tried. Now we're trying to catch UD.

The department's two full-time employees and four part-time sprayers have been working overtime, he said.

"I don't know if man could have made a dent in this problem," said Hickman.""The way it was coming, I don't believe we could have touched it.

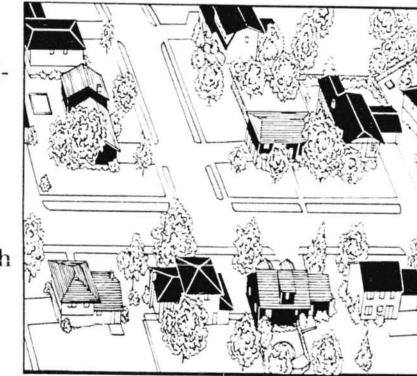




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