

# Final Water Bids Soak Up Previous Savings

BY TERRY POPE

Final bids for Brunswick County's Phase III capital improvements water project to Shallotte Point and Seaside came in higher than expected, but still within the budget for the project.

Brunswick County Commissioners Monday awarded contracts for another \$2.45 million in work as part of the overall \$7.4 million project.

However, Monday's bids were about \$750,000 higher than county officials had anticipated. The work includes construction of a pumping station and elevated storage tank at Shallotte Point.

"We had done really good up until this point," said County Manager David Clegg. "We were stunned."

The project had been divided into three sections for bids—one to install water lines from Shallotte to Seaside; one to install main transmission lines to Shallotte Point; and one to construct the water tank and pumping station.

As originally planned, the project would have cost an estimated \$10 million. Engineers had later estimated it to be an \$8 million project. Based on low bids for the previous two sections, the county had anticipated cutting about \$1 million from the overall price tag.

"Even with this overage, the whole thing still came in under budget," said Clegg.

Contracts were given Monday to: T.A. Loving Co. for general construction, \$2,140,000; Barnes and Powell Electrical Co., \$218,000; and Sneed Inc. for heat, air and plumbing, \$94,400.

The price of the project is \$6.9 million in construction plus bonding costs, for a total figure of \$7.4 million.

## Other Business

In other business Monday, commissioners:

■Voted to seek bids from private firms for the 1994 property tax revaluation and to decide April 6 whether to accept the low bid or conduct an estimated \$600,000 in-house job using tax office employees. By June 1994, the county must update market values for more than 90,000 parcels of land.

■Hired from Silas Smith of Bolivia, who asked for an ordinance requiring out-of-state roadside produce vendors to purchase privilege licenses. The county has no ordinance while Horry County, S.C., sets a fee of \$300 for such vendors, said Smith.

"It's Brunswick County people here that are in the business that they are hurting," said Smith.

Clegg will investigate and report to the board March 16.

■Accepted a plaque from Tina Pritchard of the Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department for the board's support of the 300 or more athletes who participate in the Special Olympics program.

■Endorsed the Southeastern Dialysis Center of Wilmington's permit application to open a satellite treatment office either at The Brunswick Hospital in Supply or in Shallotte. Brunswick County currently has 21 patients who receive dialysis treatments because their kidneys no longer function, said William P. Nixon, chief executive officer for the center. No other provider has applied to open a facility in the county.

■Hired Brock, Padgett and Chandler to perform an audit of county records during the 1991-92 fiscal year. The Wilmington firm has conducted the previous two annual audits.

■Accepted a \$9,310 weatherization grant and a \$75,000 Energy Rehabilitation Conservation grant, both from the state, for the Brunswick County Public Housing Agency.

■Set a maximum fee of \$7 for licensed Brunswick County nursing and rest homes that want to adopt pets from the Brunswick County Animal Shelter in Supply for patient

therapy.

■Designated the Region O Cape Fear Council of Governments as the county's lead agency for coordinating aging services grants from the state and appointed District 3 Commissioner Gene Pinkerton, in his absence, to the Block Grant Advisory Committee. Pinkerton is the county's COG representative and had agreed to the appointment.

■Agreed to discuss the future of the Keep America Beautiful Board March 16. Commissioners may dissolve the present board and appoint new members, trimming the list from 12 to six because of difficulty in obtaining quorums for monthly meetings.

■Accepted a proposal from National Security Service Inc. of Wilmington to install home alarm system equipment in the 911 communications building under construction at no cost to the county. The equipment will be moved from the sheriff's department.

■Appointed the following: Donald Gilbert to the Brunswick County ABC Board to replace George Kelly, who resigned; Donna Kritzer to the Utility Operations Board to replace D.V. Jones, who resigned; Patricia Young to the Brunswick County Hospital Authority.



STAFF PHOTO BY DORI C. GURGANUS

## Got It!

Trey Baker, 6, of Shallotte catches a grounder under blue skies Sunday afternoon. The field behind the apartment complex where he lives is a great place for budding baseball stars to practice.



## March into SPRING

with a beautiful new home & march out with savings!

# CHOICENTER™

Wayne Culbertson, RHS  
Ann Brown, RHS

**HOMES BY ANN**  
Hwy. 17 N., Shallotte, 754-5147

## GOING OUT OF BUSINESS

Spring fashions have arrived... but must be sacrificed at **HALF PRICE**

Everything Is **HALF PRICE OR LESS**

Including...  
All Apparel • Jewelry • Accessories

**Elizabeth Newman's**

OF CALABASH

Located in Low Country Stores on Hwy. 179 in Calabash

Quality Ladies' Fashions

Missy • Jr. • Petite

• Plus Sizes

**579-7299** VISA



Travel to Southport, N.C.'s Sister City...  
**SOUTHPORT, ENGLAND**

Also:  
London, York, Lake District  
**June 3-11**

**\$1750\*** per person

Includes: Round trip air from Wilmington

- 7 nights accommodation
- 7 breakfasts • 5 dinners
- Private motor coach & tour guide throughout England

\*Based on double occupancy. Single & triple rates available.

For More Information Call  
**Joanne Wesson at 457-7927 or**

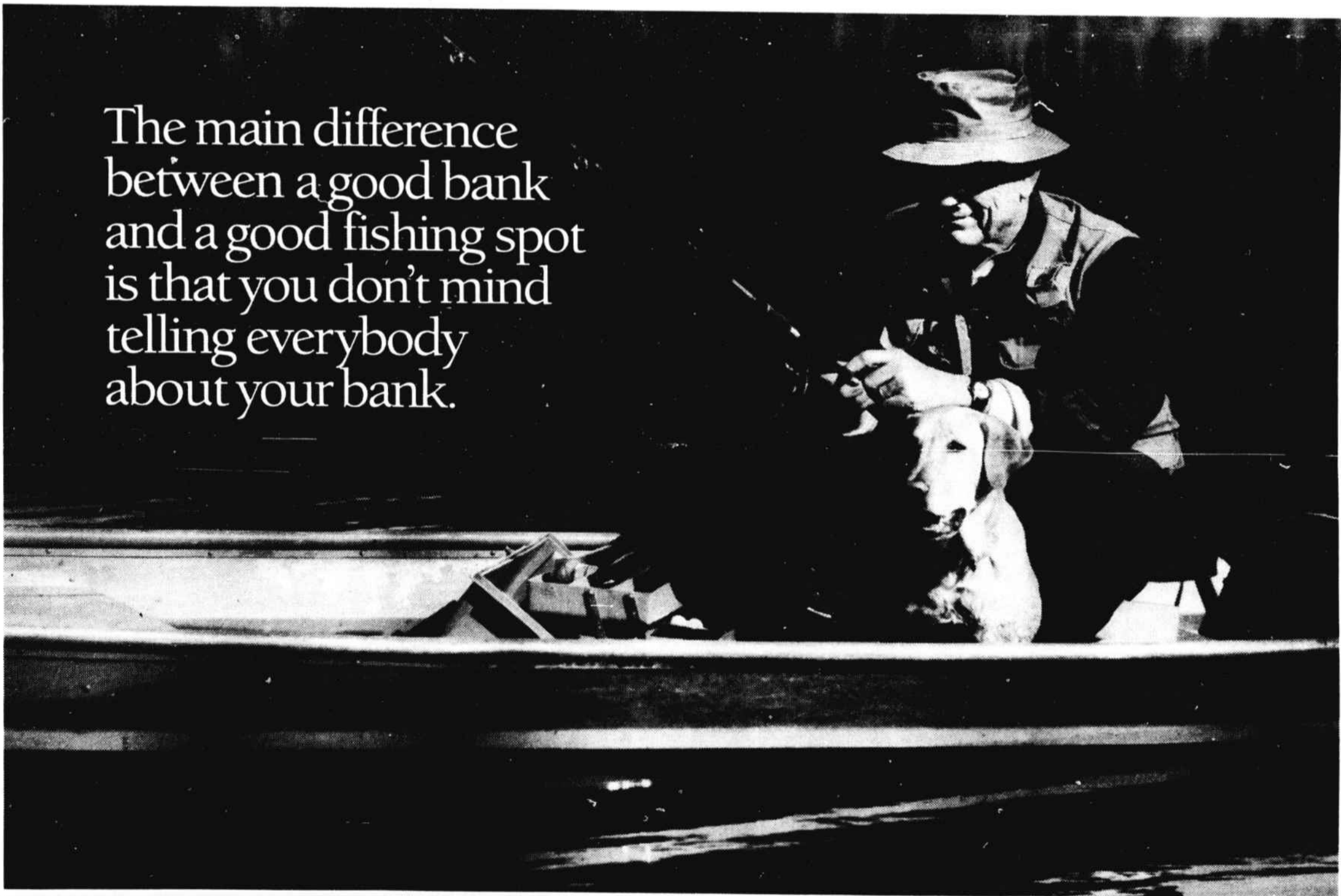


**BRUNSWICK TRAVEL INC.**

**CRUISE HEADQUARTERS**

**1-800-852-2736**

754-7484 • 150 Holden Beach Rd., Shallotte, NC 28459



The main difference between a good bank and a good fishing spot is that you don't mind telling everybody about your bank.

## The Personal Touch. Easy As UCB.

**UNITED CAROLINA BANK**

Member FDIC

A good fishing spot is hard to find. But then, so is a good bank. Because, on the surface, they all look promising. You have to go deeper to find out what's really there.

At United Carolina Bank, it doesn't matter if you have only a personal checking account or the most comprehensive business program we offer, we care about you.

And over time, you'll find that the personal care and concern the people at UCB showed you the first time you came in the bank, is there every time you come in.

So ask any UCB customer to recommend a good bank and you'll get a good answer. If you're lucky, they might even tell you where the fish are biting.

Please stop by any UCB office or call 754-4301.  
Text telephone number for the hearing impaired, 1-800-876-6545.