



IN THIS MARCH 1992 photo, BCC instructor John Davis, right, is shown teaching defibrillation to volunteers Kathleen Jacobs, left, and Judy Bryan using Holden Beach Police Chief Robert Cook (foreground, on table) as a mock patient. While their certification is suspended, local EMS volunteers are prohibited from operating defibrillators, used to stimulate the hearts of cardiac patients, as well as other advanced lifesaving equipment.

Advanced Life Support Halted; Missing Documentation Cited

(Continued From Page 1-A)

with Davis as training coordinator. Davis is a certified paramedic, the most advanced level of EMT training.

To qualify as an EMT-I requires 96 hours of class work followed by a period of field internship. During this "apprenticeship," rescuers ride in ambulances and work under a qualified EMT-I to demonstrate their proficiency on patients in the field.

Johnson said "well over 100" local rescue personnel had qualified under Davis for the EMT-D or EMT-I certification, including Ledgett. Much of the internship had to be done in other counties, because Brunswick had few certified EMT-I's to work under.

"I was being told all along that everything was fine," said Johnson.

He said he later discovered that Davis had not kept accurate records of what internship requirements had been completed. He also said Davis had not always arranged the proper field supervision of his students and had allowed improperly certified trainees to teach other students.

Johnson said Davis had led him to believe the state had given him permission to do so.

"He said the state had told them to go ahead and certify. My understanding was that an exception had been made," Johnson said.

Last month state EMS officials came to Brunswick County "to see how things were going," Johnson said. After a careful examination of training records and interviews with supervisors and students, the state examiners told Johnson there was a problem.

"It was obvious to me that there were so many deficiencies that we'd better stop the program for now," Johnson said.

Tuesday, state EMS Regional Coordinator Pam Lookabill began meeting with local EMTs at Brunswick Community College to review training records and deter-

mine what deficiencies actually exist. It is expected that many EMTs will have to make up course and field work not properly documented.

Lookabill said Tuesday she had met with only six EMTs so far and would not comment on her findings. She planned to hold more meetings today (Thursday).

Johnson said several of the county's rescue personnel had completed much of their EMT-I training in other counties and might quickly be recertified.

At their regular meeting Monday, the Brunswick County Commissioners were surprised to be informed that the ALS program had been discontinued.

Charles Critzer, a former member of the Town Creek Volunteer Rescue Squad who once sat on the county's EMS Advisory Board, told the commissioners that as supervisor of the program, Ledgett was to blame for not making sure that the training program was properly administered.

"I'm upset with Mr. Ledgett. He should have seen it coming," Critzer said.

Ledgett is out of town this week on a previously scheduled vacation, Johnson said.

Commissioner Gene Pinkerton called Ledgett "the most dedicated man there is in this county" and said he had "the utmost confidence in him."

Lookabill said the N.C. Board of Medical Examiners holds its regular quarterly meeting this week and is expected to offer guidance on how best to get the Brunswick ALS program back on line.

Johnson said he won't have an accurate idea of how long the program will be suspended until the extent of training deficiencies has been determined.

"I'm an optimist, but off the top of my head I'd like to think that within one or two months we can look seriously at starting back at least on a limited basis," Johnson said.

Money Woes, Old And New, Plague School Board

BY MARJORIE MEGIVERN

The loss of \$153,622 for energy costs in Brunswick County schools hit school board members Monday night at a particularly touchy time.

The board claims it is faced with the need to go in hand to the county commissioners again, for energy funds that the county cut, in part, from the schools budget in June because the state was expected to pick up the tab.

However, the state General Assembly didn't pick up the cost, continuing a pattern of cuts begun several years ago.

Since its county budget was set, school board members have already gone to the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners seeking help in purchasing school computers countywide. The board also took funds set aside toward design and construction of a new central office to apply to the computer project, making budget cuts of \$262,541.

"We thought the state would provide this amount for energy this year," reported Finance Officer Rudena Fallon. "But we just got word there would be no funding at all, and we have already spent that \$153,622 we thought we'd get."

The board had earlier approved a \$90,000 deletion in its energy budget as part of the overall budget slashing.

Chairman Jonna Baxter said the matter will be discussed at a special board meeting called for 7 p.m. Monday.

What board members did not know as they listened to Fallon's bad news was that the county commissioners, meeting simultaneously, were turning thumbs down on the computer proposal.

Asked to enter into a loan agreement on behalf of the school board for \$1.25 million to buy computers for all county schools, commissioners decided their help wasn't needed.

County Finance Officer Lithia Hahn reported that "once the new school is completed, it appears to me they will have enough money for their computer needs."

She cited approximately \$300,000 in Average Daily Membership (ADM) state money, previously frozen and now available. Also, the half-cent sales tax money coming to the school system turned out to be a larger sum than anticipated, as much as \$500,000, and an unused surplus of about \$250,000 from the Supply Elementary School budget was discovered.

Hahn warned that all amounts were rough estimates, as her office would not get final figures for the last quarter for another couple of weeks. The picture emerged, however, of a healthier school budget than previously believed.

"It's up to the board of education," said Commission Chairman Kelly Holden. "They wanted \$1.25 million; they already have it."

When the news of this development reached school board members Tuesday, they said they were disappointed, confused and frustrated.

"I think we have a serious communication problem," said board member Polly Russ. "We were just asking for what is ours. I don't think they (commissioners) take this seriously enough."

Baxter insisted there was no "found money," and said, "I just wish they had told us earlier if there was available money. They don't understand that we don't ever know exactly how much funding we'll get from various sources, and much

of that money doesn't come in till the end of the year."

Fallon noted that the unexpected abundance of sales tax money was due to careful planning.

"We always make a conservative estimate about our income," she said, "just like people do with their family budgets."

The two finance directors conferred Tuesday morning and Fallon sent a memo to board members, central staff administrators and board attorney Glen Peterson, outlining the \$750,000 apparently available in the fiscal year '93 school budget. It was a slightly different scenario than the one Hahn described to commissioners Monday night.

Instead of surplus Supply School construction money, Fallon said there is \$250,000 gleaned from reducing the budget for central office construction added to the \$250,000 in half-cent sales tax revenues already budgeted for computers.

To this the school board proposed to shift another \$250,000 in half-cent sales tax money that had previously been budgeted for construction, since the ADM money became available only recently. It can only be used for construction, whereas sales tax funds can also be used for equipment, such as computers.

Fallon concludes, "Ms. Hahn and I have agreed to meet to review budget balances as of June 30, 1992, monies needed to complete the budgeted projects in FY '93, previously projected revenues versus actual revenues received in FY '92, and interest earned to date. We feel that additional half-cent sales tax monies will be available in FY '93 for the additional \$500,000 needed to complete the project."

Sunset Moves To Annex Remaining Seaside Corners

BY SUSAN USHER

Sunset Beach took the first step Monday toward annexing yet another tract at the Seaside intersection that would bring all four corners into the town limits.

Council members unanimously adopted a resolution announcing that they are considering annexation of an area east and north of the intersection of N.C. 904 and N.C. 179, as recommended by the planning and zoning board.

"It starts the year running," said board attorney Mike Isenberg, before the town can adopt a resolution to annex the area. If the resolution is adopted any sooner, the date of the effective annexa-

tion would have to be delayed.

The area under consideration lies within the town's extraterritorial jurisdiction as a result of earlier annexations in the Seaside area.

"This would allow us to have control of the four corners at the N.C. 904-N.C. intersection," said Mayor Mason Barber, "so we can forcefully ask for the red light we need there."

The town has been lobbying the N.C. Department of Transportation (DOT) to install a traffic signal at the intersection in addition to other improvements such as turning lanes already scheduled for installation this fall.

The area under consideration is known as Seaside Heights. The jagged line would run from a point at the existing town limits on the east side of S.R. 1162, in an L-shape to the rear line of lots along Angier Street to the north side of N.C. 179 and the corner of the Seaside Plaza property then east a short distance before continuing north, crossing Brooks Drive at an angle, then continuing to the existing limits on Dale Drive.

An effort is underway to incorporate the Seaside community, including a portion of the Sunset Beach extraterritorial area. Organizers could not be reached Tuesday for comment on Monday's town council action.

Brust Republican Choice For Commissioner

A recent school board candidate was named Tuesday night to replace Raymond Ericksen as Republican candidate for the District 1 seat on the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners.

Joseph V. Brust of Ocean Isle Beach was chosen by unanimous vote of the Brunswick County Republican Party Executive Committee, said James Payne, party chairman. Nobody else was considered for the nomination.

The vacancy occurred with Ericksen's decision

last month to withdraw from the race.

His successor, Brust, sought the party's nomination in May as the District 1 candidate for the school board, losing to Janet Pope of Shallotte.

Brust, 64, is a retired educator with 38 years of experience as a classroom teacher,



BRUST

school administrator, superintendent and college instructor. He moved to Ocean Isle Beach after having served eight years as superintendent of the Fort Bragg schools in Fayetteville.

He holds a bachelor of science degree, a master's degree in school administration from Hofstra University in New York and a doctorate from Columbia University in New York.

Brust will face Democrat Don Warren in the Nov. 5 election.

Typical Weather Ahead

Typical mid-August weather is in the forecast for the next few days.

Shallotte Point meteorologist Jackson Canady said the outlook calls for temperatures to average from the low 70s at night to around 90 during the daytime, with at least three-fourths inch of rainfall.

For the period July 28 through Aug. 3, he recorded a maximum high of 92 degrees on both July 28 and 31 and a minimum low of 70 degrees, which occurred Aug. 2.

An average daily high of 90 degrees combined with a nightly average low of 74 degrees for a daily average temperature of 82 degrees, said Canady, which is about one degree above average for this time of year.

He recorded .26 inch of rainfall.

NOW YOUR AD CAN REACH ALL OF NORTH CAROLINA FOR ONLY \$200 25 WORDS \$6 each additional word

N.C. STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

BLANKET NORTH CAROLINA OVER 120 NEWSPAPERS (For more information, call this newspaper or...)

SIMPLY FILL OUT THIS FORM AND SEND WITH YOUR CHECK. (No Phone Orders. Larger order forms are available from this newspaper.)

Name _____ Address _____ Zip _____

Advertising Copy: _____

25 Words—\$6 each additional word over 25. Word count: Telephone numbers (including area code) equal one word. Post office box numbers as two words, box numbers and route numbers as two words. The name of the city, state and zip code each count as one word. Other customary words count as one.

SEND TO: THE BRUNSWICK BEACON CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DEPT. P.O. BOX 2558, SHALLOTTE, NC 28459 (919)754-6890

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO THE BRUNSWICK BEACON

POST OFFICE BOX 2558 SHALLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA 28459

NOTICE: Reliable or consistent delivery cannot be guaranteed since this newspaper must rely on the U.S. Postal Service for delivery. We can only guarantee that your newspaper will be submitted to the post office in Shallotte on Wednesday of the week of publication, in time for dispatch to out-of-town addresses that day.

ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RATES BY MAIL:		Sr. Citizen
In Brunswick County		
N.C. Sales Tax	\$.38	\$.32
Postage Charge	3.68	3.68
TOTAL	10.36	9.30
Elsewhere in North Carolina		
N.C. Sales Tax	\$.38	\$.32
Postage Charge	8.18	7.18
TOTAL	14.86	13.80
Outside North Carolina		
Postage Charge	9.65	9.35
TOTAL	15.95	14.95

Complete And Return To Above Address

Name _____ Address _____ City, State _____ Zip _____

THE BRUNSWICK BEACON

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

IN BRUNSWICK COUNTY

One Year.....\$10.36

Six Months.....\$5.55

ELSEWHERE IN NORTH CAROLINA

One Year.....\$14.80

Six Months.....\$7.90

ELSEWHERE IN U.S.A.

One Year.....\$15.95

Six Months.....\$8.35

Second class postage paid at Shallotte, N.C. 28459. USPS 777-780. Postmaster, send address changes to: P.O. Box 2558, Shallotte, N.C. 28459-2558