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Joe Parks

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# Study tracks risk from pollution at Marine base

By MISTI C. LEE

Star-News Correspondent

JACKSONVILLE — Boys born to mothers who lived at Camp Lejeune in the 1980s were more likely to be smaller than average because of contamination in the base water system, says a public health study released Tuesday.

The study was released by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, a division of the U.S. Public Health Service. It evaluated whether exposure to hazardous substances at Camp Lejeune could harm people living there.

The study says drinking water on the base may have been contaminated more than 30 years, though the base stopped using the wells in 1985.

The report looked at 10 of 94 potential areas of contamination the base identified during a 1983 study. Seven of those sites require long-term monitoring or cleanup.

The base was placed on a federal list of environmental cleanup priorities in 1989.

The report said contaminated tap water in three base drinking water systems is linked to low

birth weight in some babies. The wells were contaminated from leaks in underground tanks installed in the 1940s and 1950s. The wells have not been used since 1985.

To study the possible effect on infants, the agency began a study in 1995 on 6,000 infants whose mothers lived in the Tarawa Terrace, Hadnot Point and Holcomb Boulevard areas while pregnant.

The report also found that about 60 people a year were exposed to dangerous levels of pesticide in the soil at a former day-care center on Holcomb Boulevard from 1966 to 1982. In 1994 the base restricted access to the area and removed the contaminated soil from the parking lot and lawn areas.

Workers and other adults who used the parking lot may have inhaled or swallowed enough contaminated soil dust to increase their risk of developing cancer, the report says.

The report also said suspected fish contamination in two creeks along the New River could be public health hazards. It recommended further sampling of fish and shellfish in the Northeast Creek and of fish in Brinson Creek.

# Inmate ends his escape by running into sheriff

By VICTORIA CHERRIE

Staff Writer

Brunswick County Sheriff Ronald E. Hewitt took

probation violation, Mr. Pearson was booked at the jail early Tuesday morning after a motorcycle pursuit with Holden Beach police.



## OHIO Kidnapping suspect arrested

A man suspected of kidnapping a High Point couple and robbing a pet care center in Ash was arrested in Ohio.

The 44-year-old man was pulled over in New Philadelphia, Ohio, for speeding. A check on the vehicle tag showed it was stolen from a Buick registered to the High Point couple, Brunswick County Sheriff Ronald E. Hewitt said.

The elderly couple were bound, kidnapped and robbed at their home last month. The robber also stole their Buick Regal.

Warrants were being drawn Tuesday in Brunswick County charging John Charles Badger Jr. with the July robbery of Wags and Whiskers, a pet care center, the sheriff said. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has custody of the man, who was convicted in 1991 of

robbing a also accus- ginia bank

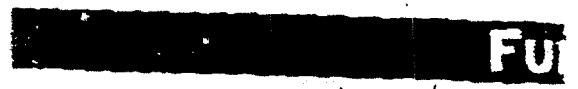
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The men with the ma He was cut object when robber while maged throu

The man Hanover Reg and released.



Carr, John Herbert, of 2903 Cooper's Court, formerly of 1020 Rankin St., Apt. 304, died Friday at home. The funeral will be at 3 p.m. today at New Covenant United Holy Church. Burial will be in Calvary Memorial Cemetery, Jordan Funeral Home.

Carter, Lillie Stearn, 62, of 262 Fruit Ridge Road, Whiteville, died Monday at Columbus County Hospital. The funeral will be at 1 p.m. Friday at Spring Hill Missionary Baptist Church. Burial will be in Millican Cemetery, Peoples Funeral Home, Whiteville.

gional Medical will be at 4 p.m. -tist Church. Whiteville M. Peacock Funvile.

Graham, T 2392 Otto N. Gordo, died Sa. County Hospit. be at 2 p.m. Tabor Mission. Burial will be in Floral Garden. Home, Whitevill

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