



## 52 years and counting

Board of Architectural Review Chairman Jamie Thompkins congratulates Tommy Moore, who now owns an official Legacy business. Moore's wife

Lynn is pictured to the right of Moore and their son Bradley is pictured to the left of his dad.

# Two Conway landmarks named Legacy businesses

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The Horry County Board of Architectural Review celebrated with two Conway businesses this past week as they recognized them as official Legacy businesses.

Norman's Cleaners and Ocean Fish Market earned their new statuses by operating for more than 50 years.

Although Norman's Cleaners has been in business for 54 years, it has not always been at the same location. It has always been owned and operated by the Moore family.

Norman Moore opened the business on Third Avenue in 1962. He later moved his business to Laurel Street, and in 1972 moved to its present location on Fourth Avenue at Main Street. The corner had previously been the site of a theatre and a service station, which Moore renovated.

Norman Moore's son, Tommy Moore, ran the business for many years before his son Bradley joined him on the management team.

Tommy Moore also spoke at the celebration of another Legacy business, Conway National Bank, that had a hand in getting his business started. Moore said in 1962 CNB employee Bruce Anderson financed the business for his father. He said Anderson provided his father \$500 for operating capital to get the business going.

Moore didn't miss the chance to thank his employees for their excellent service over years, and pointed out that one of his employees, Lorine Grissett, is a third generation employee. Grissett is a presser of fine garments at Normans.

Moore also thanked his customers saying many of them are also in their third generation of having their duds cleaned in Normans



## Four generations

Ocean Fish Market joined several other Horry County legacy businesses in a ceremony this past week. Here, owners Jennie, Diane and Ray Hardee look over memorabilia

suds.

The celebrants then moved to Ocean Fish Market at 302 Kingston St., behind Kingston Presbyterian Church, to official stamp it as a Legacy business.

BAR Chairman James B. "Jamie" Thompkins III has a special interest in Ocean Fish Market because some of his relatives started it. "It's special to me because it is part of my family legacy," he said, adding that it serves as a Conway landmark where it sits on Kingston Lake.

Thompkins said his ancestors, a Sarkis family, were some of the early Lebanese immigrants in Conway, coming in 1920 or so.

His great-great-grandfather Josephus "Joe" Sarkis Sr. opened a fish market on

Laurel Street where Grady's Jewelers is now.

His son Jo-Jo Sarkis, Thompkins' great-grandfather, then opened a second fish market that became Ocean Fish Market.

When Joe Sr's health began to fail, Jo-Jo moved back to the Laurel Street market. The Sarkis family then gave the second site to George Martin, an employee. Martin and his partner Marie Shelley Graham were partners in the original Ocean Fish Market that opened in the early 1940s, making it 75-years-old. Graham and Martin ran the business together for 50 years. Graham, her daughter Janice Graham Jordan and her husband F.W. Graham co-owned the business with

for the business with Jamie Thompkins, whose family started the business.

Marie until 1998 when they sold it to Diane and Ray Hardee, who also own Shelley's Seafood in Conway.

The Hardees and their daughter Jennie have owned and operated Ocean Fish Market for 18 years now. The business has stayed in the family because Diane is a niece of Marie Graham.

The business was originally located across the street from its current location; it was moved just a few years after opening its doors. The current building was originally used as a blacksmith shop in the early 1900s. The metal rings on the brick wall outside of the business, where people tied up their horses when they came

into town, are still there, according to information provided by Horry County.

Hardee said the uniqueness of his business and its shady location on the lake have attracted lots of media attention over the years. Stories about the business have appeared twice in Charleston Magazine and once in Grand Strand Magazine.

Ocean Fish Market and Norman's Cleaners now join several other official Horry County Legacy businesses, including Rhue's Mortuary, Hucks and Washington Furniture, Donzelle's Restaurant, Nye's Pharmacy, Conway National Bank and Palmetto Chevrolet in Conway and Peaches Corner in Myrtle Beach.

## | POLICE |

### FROM A10

#### Ex-girlfriend with a gun

A Conway man told police when he was not at home his ex-girlfriend went to his house with her boyfriend to see her children, according to a Conway police report.

The children told police the woman walked right into the house without knocking.

The man said he got home when the duo was about the leave. He went to their vehicle and asked why they were there. He says his ex-girlfriend cocked a gun and pointed it at his chest, according to the Conway police report.

The ex-girlfriend fled when the man's new girlfriend called police.

#### Loris school fight

Two 13-year-old students at Loris Middle School were cited for disorderly conduct after Horry County police say they fought at school.

An officer says when he got to the hallway where the fight happened early one morning this past week, he found one student being held by a teacher and a second young girl inside a classroom.

The police report says it took three teachers and a student to break up the fight.

One of the people trying to break up the fight told police his back was injured. The school nurse gave him an ice pack.

One of the girls told police the other girl texted her that morning saying she and "her squad" were going to jump her when she went into the bathroom.

The girl says later the texting student followed her into her classroom, knocked her iPad out of her hand and hit her in the back of her head. The victim says she hit back and that's when the fight started.

The second girl said the fight started with the other girl got up in her face.

The victim had two minor lacerations, one between her eye and nose and the other on her right hand, and the other girl said she had a headache caused by having hit the wall.

Both girls were suspended.

#### Like a deer in the headlights

A Loris area man says after several break-ins into his shed, he screwed the door shut and put deer cameras throughout his yard trying to catch whoever was responsible, according to an Horry County police report.

This past week, the man says he noticed that the door to his shed was open, so he checked his cameras and found two people driving a car and one walking down the driveway with what appeared to be a pry bar as he headed toward the shed.

The police report also says the other man is shown walking near the shed before he got back into the car and left.

While police were investigating the incident, the victim's wife called to say that she was behind the vehicle that was shown in the pictures and it was traveling east on West Bear Grass. Police went there and stopped the car. The officer said he was able to identify the suspects as the ones that were shown on the video.

The two men told police they were simply driving around and had no idea what was going on.

Inside the car, police found several tools including a pry bar, bolt cutters, wire cutters, a machete with electrical tape wrapped around the handle, a revolver loaded with six shots and a purse that belonged to the woman. The only thing that was still missing was gas from a gas can.

Police also located three cell phones, a pellet rifle and spoons with a white residue on them.

Both men were charged with possession of burglary tools; possession of a pistol by certain persons; third-degree burglary, second offense; breaking into a motor vehicle or tank; larceny under \$2,000; and malicious damage to personal property. One of the men also had two counts of simple larceny and two counts of receiving stolen goods.

The second man also had charges of second-degree non-violent burglary; and third-degree burglary, first offense, all according to Horry County jail records.

Both men were still in jail yesterday.

# HTC employees donate 30 units of blood to Red Cross

HTC is committed to supporting its community.

That's why the company is pleased to partner with the American Red Cross to host blood drives every quarter where employees are encouraged to donate in hopes of providing life-saving blood to the community. On March 1, employees generously gave 30 units, potentially saving as many as 90 lives because each unit has the power to save three lives.

"HTC has a long history of community involvement. Employees regularly band together for a cause and we support their efforts and are so grateful for their donations," said Lisa Martin, marketing coordinator.

"Our mission to serve the communities in which we live and work is a cornerstone of our Cooperative's heritage and culture. Our core value of community commitment carries on through our employees' donations to the communities that have made our success possible."

Since 1999, HTC employees have donated more than 2,600 units of blood, potentially saving as many as 7,800 lives over the past 17 years. For more information about HTC community outreach programs, visit [htcinc.net](http://htcinc.net).

For more information about how to participate in the quarterly blood drives held at HTC, please contact Lisa Martin at (843) 369-8714.



Senior Construction Worker, Jason Graham, was one of the HTC employees who participated in the March Red Cross Blood Drive