



AT INITIATION BREAKFAST are, from left, Leo Johnson Jr., new president; Tom Tucker, Don Evans, Clark Callahan and W. J. McLamb, new directors; and Tripp Sloane, retiring president.

New Chamber President, Directors Take Office

The presidency of the South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce passed to Leo Johnson Jr. from Tripp Sloane last week at an initiation breakfast for new officers and directors.

Johnson, United Carolina Bank's city executive in Shallotte, praised Sloane for "turning the chamber around" as he presented Sloane a plaque commemorating his accomplishments as president during the past year.

New board members elected by the chamber's general membership were installed by David Batten, a past president and retiring board member. They are:

Clark Callahan, Calabash Nautical Gifts, representing Calabash;

Don Evans, Coastal Insurance and Realty, and W. J. McLamb, Mac Construction, representing Shallotte;

Annette Odom, The Odom Co., and Tommy Tucker, Sunset Beach Realty, representing Sunset Beach;

Virgil Roberts, Carob, Inc., representing Holden Beach.

Retiring board members were presented framed certificates of appreciation for their service. They are Mason Anderson, David Batten, Connor Cox, Art Rotundo, Jim Stoffel and Eddie Sweatt.

Board members whose terms did not expire this year are Patricia Hostetler, Frances Williams, Ken Pensmith, Alan Holden, Dennis Crocker, Miller Pope, John Frink and Judy Young.

New officers and directors are optimistic about the coming year when a more aggressive advertising and promotion campaign is planned, thanks to \$60,000 appropriated to the two chambers of commerce for this purpose by the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners.

During the past year the chamber faced the challenges of staff changes and relocation of its offices, Johnson, the new president remarked.

County Coroner Pleads Guilty To Four Charges

BY TERRY POPE

Brunswick County Coroner Thomas Gilbert IV of Southport pleaded guilty to four charges of violating the N.C. Cemetery Act in District Court last week and received a suspended sentence.

Gilbert and his wife, Linda H. Gilbert, who own and operate the Cape Fear Memorial Gardens in Southport, were each charged in April with six violations of the N.C. Cemetery Act by William M. Gladden III, administrator of the N.C. Cemetery Commission. Charges against Ms. Gilbert were dismissed.

In court last Tuesday, Judge Lee J. Greer Jr. also ordered that Gilbert pay a \$2,200 fine and comply with all cemetery commission regulations within 120 days. Greer sentenced Gilbert to two years in prison for the misdemeanor charges, suspended for two years and placed him on supervised probation.

Gilbert pleaded guilty last week to 1) failing to make deposits in a perpetual-care fund; 2) failing to make deposits in a mausoleum trust account; 3) failing to make deposits to preneed merchandise trust accounts; and 4) failing to pay the penalty for failure to make timely deposits.

Assistant District Attorney Wanda Bryant agreed to dismiss two other charges against Gilbert, including failing to pay fees for grave spaces sold and failing to make monthly financial reports.

The N.C. Cemetery Commission revoked Gilbert's license to operate the Cape Fear Memorial Gardens

last year before pressing charges in Brunswick County District Court. In filing the charges, Gladden said that cemetery owners must deposit funds from each plot or grave space sold into perpetual care or trust accounts to help defray the costs of taking care of the lot.

When the cemetery sells a space in a mausoleum before the building is complete, the funds must either be deposited in a trust account or used immediately to develop the mausoleum. Gilbert did not make the required deposits, according to the testimony in court last week.

Gilbert's attorney, Grover Gore of Southport, argued that the money collected from the cemetery sales was used to develop the mausoleum, which he said is 75 percent complete and paid for.

The Gilberts incorporated the Southport cemetery in 1981 under the title Cape Fear Cemetery Corporation. Gilbert is listed as co-owner and general manager of the corporation, while Ms. Gilbert is listed as president of the corporation.

The N.C. Cemetery Commission sent Gilbert a notice in January 1983 that he was not in compliance with the commission's regulations, Ms. Bryant argued. Gilbert and the commission do not agree on the amount of money the perpetual care and trust accounts should contain, so an audit was ordered by Judge Greer.

Greer also told Gilbert that he must pay the money assessed by auditors toward the cemetery trust accounts.

Land Use Policies Would Provide 'Orderly' Growth

A revised Sunset Beach land use plan would provide for orderly growth while continuing to emphasize single-family living, according to general policies reviewed Monday by the town council.

Town Administrator Wallace Martin presented seven broad policy statements that he said would provide guidance in revising the town's land use plan, which is required by the Coastal Area Management Act.

A rough draft of the revision is due to the N.C. Office of Coastal Manage-

ment for review by August 31, he said. While additional public hearings on the plan can be held any time council chooses, he told the board, the next one would probably be scheduled after the first draft is presented.

The town "should adopt policies that will protect, preserve and manage the orderly development of this rapidly growing coastal area," Martin wrote in the preamble.

The proposed policies, many of them restatements of items in the

1980 plan:

- Recognize what Martin sees as a general consensus among property owners favoring a "single family" beach, continuing to allow only single-family dwellings on lots of less than 15,000 square feet;

- Support development of standards for density and setbacks in business districts for multi-family residential construction;

- Identify a need for the long range provision for parking, visitors and property owners who come to the

beach while recognizing the town's current efforts to provide access through 26 ten-foot easements and seven 5-foot easements and availability of pay parking and parking for property owners;

- Identify a "clear need" for an improved method of crossing the waterway "in the interest of providing rapid, dependable and safe access."

- Suggest adoption of regulations recommended by the Brunswick County Health Department for protection from ground absorption sep-

tic tank pollution along estuarine shorelines. These include 35-foot setbacks for four-bedroom homes and for three bedroom homes, avoidance of abutting tanks or drain fields; as well as:

- Conformance with appropriate state and federal regulations such as CAMA, flood plain development and building code.

Other Business

In other business the board: Heard that the town's rating for fire insurance purposes improved from nine to seven within areas served by fire hydrants, which should result in lower premiums in that area.

- Stumbling a little through the required parliamentary procedures, voted 3-2 to name John T. Rose of Lakeshore Drive as a permanent member of the planning board from within the town, appointing Jim Craig of Shoreline Drive as alternate, and on a 4-1 vote named Richard J. Good as alternate member from the extra-territorial zone, with only Gore voting in the negative.

- Approved the 1985-86 budget and existing tax rate as previously presented following review by auditor John Carraway. "Carraway assured us the books are in balance and he thinks we have a good budget here," said Mayor Jim Gordon. At a recent meeting, a citizen questioned the state of the books, alleging they had not balanced for 1985-86 year or several prior years. Several budget transfers had to be reworked Monday because of computer problems discovered last week and corrected by technicians Friday, Town Clerk Linda Fluegel noted.

- Martin reported progress in completion of beach parking spaces. For reasons of safety, the town still plans to prohibit parking along the ocean-

front boulevard once the spaces are completed, council members advised an audience member.

- Appointed town employee Larry Crim as plumbing inspector.

- Delayed consideration of a recommendation from the Sunset Beach Taxpayers' Association until a legal opinion can be obtained on current ownership of the parking area near the pier now in the name of Beach Enterprises, of which Ed Gore is president. The association, in a letter written by John G. McCarthy and Minnie K. Hunt, suggests the town reclaim the area, at one time offered for dedication to the town for public use, for public access and parking. McCarthy said the letter was submitted as the basis for a possible suit.

Monday's meeting, with approximately 26 residents or property owners present, was held in lieu of an August meeting because of a conflict in Gordon's schedule. The board won't meet again until September unless in called session.

Shallotte Man Arrested On Multiple Drug Charges

BY SUSAN USHER

A Shallotte man was arrested and charged with multiple drug offenses by the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department following a search of his

Mulberry Street residence about 5:30 p.m. Friday.

Henry Milton Stanley, 25, was charged with possession of marijuana with intent to sell and deliver,

manufacturing, and possession of drug paraphernalia, said Detective David Crocker of the department's drug investigation unit.

The arrest was a joint effort of the county and the Shallotte Police Department after the Shallotte department received information. Police Sgt. Rodney Gause said the town called in the sheriff's department because the Stanley residence was outside its jurisdiction. Gause and auxiliary officer Martha Britt

accompanied the sheriff's officers.

Using a search warrant obtained earlier that day, officers confiscated from Stanley's premises \$2,500 in cash, a undetermined quantity of marijuana, two small marijuana plants that were growing outside the residence and drug paraphernalia, he added. The SBI is to determine the actual weight of the marijuana confiscated.

Stanley was released later Friday on \$1,100 in secured bonds. He faces a July 30 court date.

Cocaine Charges Filed Against Shallotte Man

A 51-year-old Shallotte man was arrested and charged with possession of cocaine with intent to sell and deliver last Tuesday evening by the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department.

Earl Arthur Spivey, of P.O. Box 263, Shallotte (North Tanglewood Estates), was arrested at his home after detectives searched the residence for cocaine, Detective Dick Burgess said.

Five grams of cocaine valued at approximately \$500 plus \$5,550 in cash was confiscated from the Spivey residence, Burgess said.

"Information was received by Det. Debbie Brewer that he was in possession of cocaine," Burgess said. "Upon the information that she received, the drug squad asked for a search warrant. One was issued and we searched the house."

Also making the search were Det. David Crocker, Lt. Liston Hawes and Sgt. Carl Peirson of the sheriff's department. In addition to the money and cocaine, several items of drug paraphernalia were also confiscated, Burgess said.

Spivey was released from the Brunswick County Jail under \$10,000 bond.

Store Clerk Testifies

(Continued From Page 1-A)

do." Prior to the alleged rape, she said, a bread deliveryman noticed the suspect lingering in the store and told her, "You better watch him. I think he's been in trouble before."

The deliveryman then stood in front of the counter and blocked the suspect's view of the cashier while she picked up the phone and called the sheriff's department. She said the delivery man gave her the name "Elwood Pigott" and she gave the name to Sgt. Jody Nance at the sheriff's department.

Nance was later fired from the department by Sheriff John Carr Davis after it was learned that Nance had not dispatched a Shallotte officer or deputy to the store following the telephone call.

Nance defended his actions, saying the clerk never requested that an officer be sent, but instead requested that he find out what he could about a suspect whom he did not know was at the store at the time of the call.

Following the alleged rape, the clerk said she telephoned the sheriff's department a second time

and asked Nance, "Can you send me some help now? I've been raped. He said, 'My God, you can't be serious.' And I said, 'Yes, I am serious. I've been raped.'"

Shallotte Police Sgt. Rodney Gause and Officer Nellie Evans arrested Pigott at his place of work that afternoon. The clerk said she told Officer Evans that the suspect had "orange spots" in his hair, possibly from a dye, and should have scratches on his arms where she "clawed him, trying to get loose."

"I told her the same name the bread man had given me," she said.

The victim later picked out Pigott's face as the suspect from a stack of photographs supplied by the sheriff's department. Pigott remains in jail under \$50,000 bond.

The defendant was once transferred from the Brunswick County Jail after the sheriff's department received a number of death threats from unidentified telephone callers. In court last Wednesday, officers were stationed at the courtroom entrances, checking everyone entering for concealed weapons.

Correction

An error appeared in an article in the July 11 edition of The Brunswick Beacon on concerns about hiring procedures in the Brunswick County Department of Social Services.

The article indicated that Supervisor Evelyn Johnson had picked up applications from the county person-

nel office for a fraud investigator's position for forwarding to the regional personnel office for review.

However, Mrs. Johnson did not. She, as has been the practice in the department, picked up applications for a Social Worker I position. She is the social worker supervisor.

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