

Town Bans Parking Along Holden's Ocean Boulevard

BY TERRY POPE

Within weeks, parking along the right-of-way of Ocean Boulevard at Holden Beach without a special use permit will be illegal.

Council members voted unanimously last Wednesday morning to ban all parking along the boulevard "from either side all the way from one end to the other." Streets and beach access commissioner Graham King was not present for the special meeting.

The board cited safety as the main reason for eliminating parking along the shoulder of Ocean Boulevard the entire length of the island. In a letter addressed to Mayor Kenner Amos, resident William G. Marley Jr. of 335 Ocean Boulevard West requested that a no-parking zone be established in front of his home, which is adjacent to a public beach access walkway.

While on the topic of no-parking, Commissioner Hal Stanley expanded the scope of the request by including all of Ocean Boulevard in the plan. His motion called for the banning all parking along the right-of-way except for those persons obtaining a special use permit first from the police department.

"If you put the cars on the right-of-way, the runners and walkers have no place to go but on the highway," Stanley said.

Stanley said he has observed the parking areas pro-

vided by the town this summer and they do not appear to be "filled up."

"I don't know of a law that doesn't raise a little bit of a problem to somebody," he added.

Councilman Jim Griffin said the ban on parking along the nine-mile stretch will affect more cars than initially believed.

"If we had a car count this year along Ocean Boulevard," Griffin said, "I think we'd be shocked at how many cars are there."

But council member Gloria Barrett said the "only way to solve the problem is to be consistent." She seconded Stanley's motion that parking along the street be banned.

Town Administrator Bob Buck said he must now check to determine if a town ordinance is needed to ban parking along the street. The town must also order no parking signs and posts, so it will be weeks before the ban takes effect.

In his letter to Mayor Amos, Marley states that "parking on the shoulder of Ocean Boulevard has already become a problem for me."

A no-parking zone was established at the access point near Marley's home, but it extends only a short distance across the frontage of his lot.

"People driving to this access point are parking their vehicles on the shoulder just beyond the no-parking zone," the letter states. "Vehicles have been left blocking my driveway on numerous occasions which is a severe inconvenience to my family, visiting guests, and those renting my house."

"Even if the driveway is not blocked, vehicles parked on the shoulder block the view of on-coming traffic to the extent that anyone attempting to back from my driveway onto Ocean Boulevard cannot do so safely. This is a very annoying and dangerous situation which the town should not allow to continue," the letter states.

Other Action

The board also agreed Wednesday to postpone action on a request from resident Dr. William Philbrick, who is asking that the town pay 40 percent of the cost of bulkheading the end of Durham Street.

Philbrick owns the last lot on Durham Street and plans to bulkhead his lot.

"I am asking the town commissioners to consider paying a portion of the cost of bulkheading 50 feet at the end of Durham Street," Philbrick wrote in a letter to Town Administrator Buck. "I am personally willing to pay 60 percent of the cost of the 50 feet if the town of Holden Beach will pay the remaining 40 percent."

Stanley said he thinks the board "will be setting a precedent in this thing," and asked that the matter be postponed until the next regular meeting.

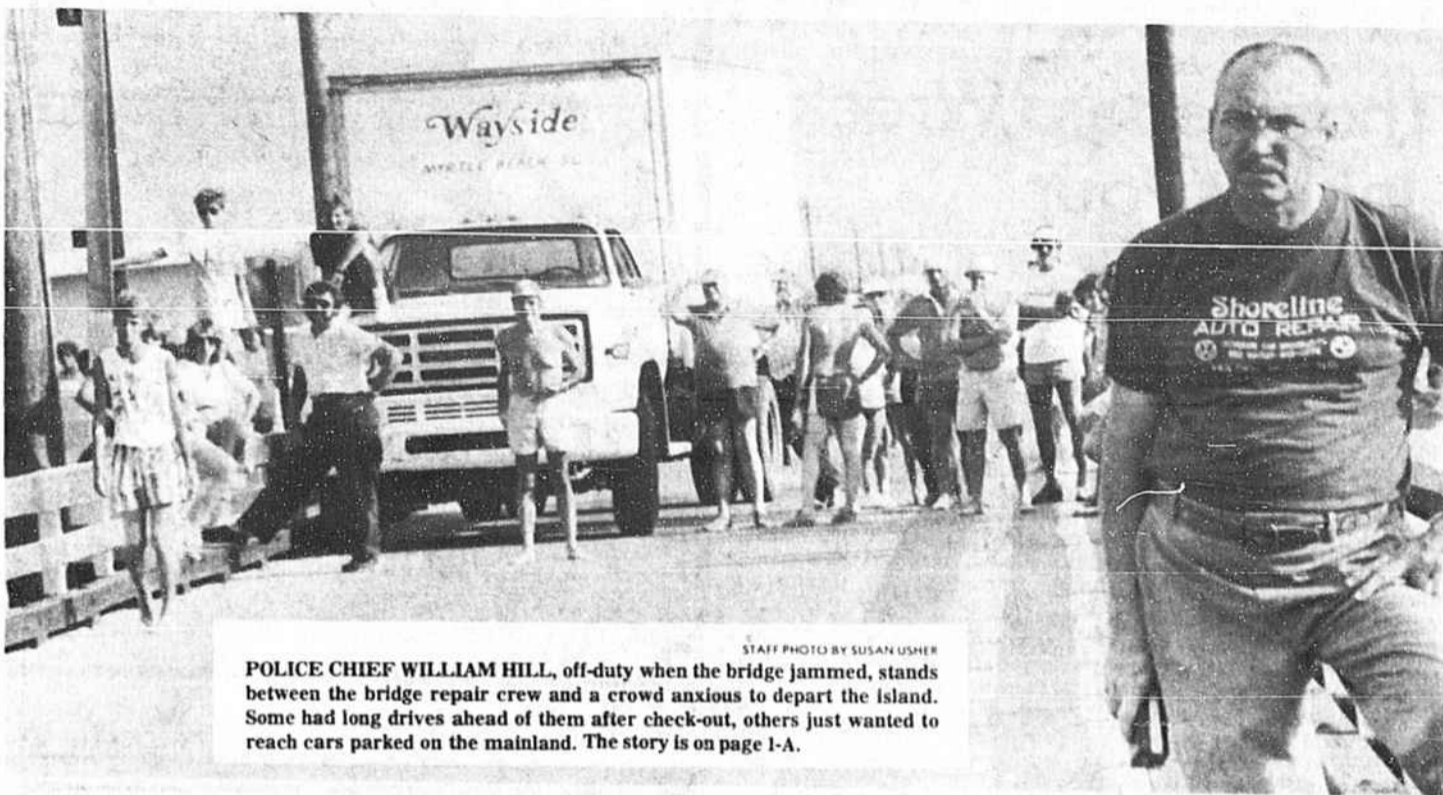
In other action last week, the board agreed to sell its used office copier for \$200, a machine that Buck said "does an adequate job if you don't expect too much from it."

Stanley made a motion that the copier be given to the police department, then Ms. Barrett made a motion that it be traded in on a new machine, but both motions died for lack of a second.

Stanley then made a motion that the police department be allowed to use it, but that it remain for sale. Griffin then made a substitute motion that the town keep it and try to sell it until the next regular meeting.

The board also hired a new police officer and met briefly in executive session to discuss personnel. Hired by the board was Dennis Lynn Pickard, 30, of Graham. Pickard is a certified officer who has served as sergeant with the Mebane Police Department. He is currently working with a radio station in Burlington.

The board also agreed to obtain funds paid in to the employee retirement program for two former police officers who have resigned, but to discuss at a later date how the funds should be disbursed.



STAFF PHOTO BY SUSAN USHER
POLICE CHIEF WILLIAM HILL, off-duty when the bridge jammed, stands between the bridge repair crew and a crowd anxious to depart the island. Some had long drives ahead of them after check-out, others just wanted to reach cars parked on the mainland. The story is on page 1-A.

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Calendar Of Events

Thursday, Aug. 22

SEA TRAIL COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION holds a covered-dish supper at the Sunset Beach Fire Station, 6:30 p.m.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER for the Calabash VFW Benefit Golf Tournament at Carolina Shores Golf & Country Club, Calabash, on Aug. 24. Call 579-2181 or (803) 448-2657 for more information.

GAME NIGHT at the American Legion Hut, one mile south of Shallotte on U.S. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Friday, Aug. 23

GAME NIGHT at the Sunset Beach Volunteer Fire Department, 8 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 24

SHALLOTTE POINT VFD serves shrimp/fish plates at the fire station, 11 a.m.-2 p.m. and 5 p.m.-7 p.m., \$3.50 each. Call 754-6505 for delivery of six or more plates.

GAME NIGHT at the Calabash Volunteer Fire Department, 8 p.m.

Monday, Aug. 26

CALABASH TOWN BOARD meets at the town hall, 10 a.m.

BRUNSWICK COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS meet in continued session to discuss the Caw Caw Swamp Drainage District and other matters, in their chambers, Brunswick County Government Center, 11 a.m.

BRUNSWICK COUNTY BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES meets at the social services department, Brunswick County Government Center, 5:30 p.m.

BRUNSWICK COUNTY B.A.S.S.MASTERS meet at Joe's Barbecue in Shallotte, 7:30 p.m. Call Rudy Fowler at 754-6564 for more information.

Tuesday, Aug. 27

SOUTH BRUNSWICK ISLANDS HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION meets at Pat's Restaurant, Ocean Isle Beach. For more information call 842-9505.

Wednesday, Aug. 28

BRUNSWICK TOASTMASTERS meet for breakfast at the Ship's Chandler Restaurant, Southport, 7 a.m.-8 a.m. Visitors and prospective members welcome.

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS is the topic of a program by Brunswick County Emergency Management Coordinator Cecil Logan at the Waccamaw Fire and Rescue Building at Ash, 10 a.m.

Sunset Moves Meeting Up

Sunset Beach Town Council will hold its regular September meeting in August.

Originally scheduled for Sept. 2, the meeting will instead be held Thursday, Aug. 29, at 7:30 p.m. at the town hall, said Linda Fluegel, town clerk.

Program Slated

A program on hurricane preparedness will be presented at the Waccamaw Volunteer Fire and Rescue Building Wednesday, Aug. 28, at 10 a.m.

The public is invited, a news release indicated.

The squad building is located on N.C. 130 at Ash.

Driver Still 'Critical'

A Shallotte man who survived a one-car accident last Tuesday morning in which two teenagers were killed was still listed in "critical condition" at Duke Medical Center in Durham Tuesday morning, a hospital spokesman said.

Wayne Sterling LaGant, 28, of P.O. Box 1232, Shallotte, the driver of the vehicle that ran off of Pigott Road near Shallotte Point, is still in the intensive care unit at Duke, said Ron Ferrell, public relations officer.

LaGant was taken to the Brunswick Hospital in Supply following the 4:25 a.m. accident and later

transported by Life Flight helicopter to Duke Medical Center.

Killed in the accident were Cammie Lanette Stanley, 16, of Route 3, Box 1098, Shallotte and William Rhett Chrisanthais, 18, of P.O. Box 2404, Shallotte.

According to State Trooper D.B. Harvell's report, the accident occurred on Pigott Road about 3.6 miles south of Shallotte. The car LaGant was driving was headed east and attempted to round a curve at an excessive speed when it ran off the road and struck a tree on the right passenger door, Harvell stated.

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Crop pants are popular this year and this matched set by Ocean Pacific features a peek-a-boo back. The colorful jungle print complements Andrea Galloway's summer tan.

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