

House Sitter

STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

A seagull rests atop a purple martin house at Holden Beach on a recent sunny afternoon, housesitting, perhaps, until the residents return in the spring.

Two Ash Men Injured When Truck Hits Tree

Two Ash men were seriously injured Saturday night after a pickup truck ran off the road and struck a tree about 14 miles west of Shallotte. Manuel O'Bryan Babson, 21, and Shawn Robbins, 16, were both injured and taken to The Brunswick Hospital in Supply following the 10:50 p.m. accident.

According to State Trooper R.L. Murray's report, Babson was driving a 1972 Ford pickup on RPR 1333 (Kingtown Road) when it ran off the right shoulder and struck a large tree. The truck came to rest around the tree, Trooper Murray reported.

The accident occurred around 10:50 p.m. Damage was estimated at \$500.

No charges have been filed pending further investigation.

Both men have been treated and released, said Brunswick Hospital spokesperson Frances Fowler.

In another accident Friday afternoon, both drivers were charged in a two-car collision near Shallotte.

Larry Wayne Lasher, 26, of Supply was traveling east on N.C. 130 about two miles east of Shallotte when his 1976 Chevrolet was struck from behind by a 1985 Chevrolet driven by Betty Hewett Clemmons, 59, of Shallotte.

According to Trooper W.H. Thompson's report, Lasher had stopped to make a left turn into John's Auto when the Clemmons car failed to stop. Lasher was charged with driving while his license was

revoked.

Ms. Clemmons, who was charged with failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident, was taken to The Brunswick Hospital in Supply with minor injuries. Lasher was not injured.

Damage was estimated at \$1,500 to the Clemmons car and \$300 to the Lasher car. The accident occurred around 3:15 p.m.

Another accident last Thursday sent four people to the hospital for treatment.

A Carolina Beach man was charged with failing to stop at a stop sign in the 12:15 a.m. accident about nine miles south of Belville on Old Town Creek Road (RPR 1412).

Dana Michael Bumgarner, 21, was driving a 1969 Plymouth when he failed to stop at the sign and ran onto U.S. 17 and into the path of another car, hitting a 1981 Mercedes driven by James H. Barden, 47, of Holden Beach, reported Trooper J.V. Dove. Bumgarner was charged in the accident.

Barden and two passengers in his car, Leon McBryde, 47, of Buchanan, Va., and Kenneth Bliss, 57, of Calabasa, Calif., were all taken to the New Hanover Regional Medical Center in Wilmington.

Bumgarner and a passenger in his car, Marjorie Milligan, 19, of Leland, were also injured and taken to the hospital by ambulance.

Damage was estimated at \$30,000 to the Barden car and \$500 to the Bumgarner car.

Second Look By Planners Needed On Ordinance

BY TERRY POPE

A second workshop is needed so the Brunswick County Planning Board can finish polishing the fifth draft of a new county subdivision ordinance.

At a special meeting last Wednesday night, the board worked for almost two hours revising the ordinance it hopes to recommend to county commissioners soon.

If commissioners decide to review the ordinance, it will end a 10-year wait. In May 1981, the county planning board held a special meeting with commissioners to discuss why a new subdivision ordinance was needed.

A first draft was released in November 1981, but in December of that year commissioners told the planning board to drop the subject. The county has operated with its present ordinance since June 1980.

Last Wednesday, the board studied a revised copy of the ordinance prepared by County Attorney David Clegg, who had been asked by Planning Director John Harvey to make comments on the draft.

The ordinance has been through five drafts since it was revived by the planning board and Brunswick County Board of Health, which worked together to draft sections relating to septic tank requirements and minimum lot sizes.

Walter Marley, the county's soil scientist, also met with the planning board last week to discuss sections of the ordinance relating to septic tank requirements. Board members agreed that offering upfront trips with the planning staff to review sites would eliminate some of the disagreements among surveyors, soil scientists and planners when the projects come before the planning board for approval.

Arranging an on-site meeting now would require about a week, Marley said, or two weeks during the busier summer season.

"If everybody requested an on-site meeting, it'd be a mess," Marley said.

The board agreed that such a meeting should be an option for developers, not a requirement.

Board member Alfonza Roach, a Holden Beach area developer, concurred.

"Money is the whole situation, fellas," Roach said. The longer it takes to get a plat proposal approved by the planning board the more money it costs the developer, he added.

The new ordinance would regulate developments in unincorporated areas of the county not affected by town zoning laws. Among the new regulations that aren't part of the 1980 ordinance are minimum lot sizes and requirements that subdivisions connect to the county's water system if within a certain distance to trunk lines.

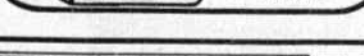
The planning board was to meet in regular session Wednesday night.

L. Bookworm

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Sincerely
Mike Easley



MIKE EASLEY



STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

House Finds New Home

This Holden Beach cottage owned by W.F. Rosse of Durham, was recently moved from the its former oceanfront lot to this lot across the street on Hillside Drive. Building Inspector Dwight Carroll has issued 29 permits for relocation or destruction of homes since Hurricane Hugo in September 1989. The Holden Beach Zoning Board of Adjustment will hear two more requests for house relocations Monday, Jan. 21, at 5 p.m. in the town hall.

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