



STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

DUMPSTERS in and around Calabash would have to be placed on concrete pads and screened on three sides if the town board approves new zoning ordinances. A public hearing will be held Wednesday, Jan. 30, at 7 p.m. at the Calabash fire station.

Calabash Board Will Hear Comments Wednesday On Proposed Zoning Rules

BY DOUG RUTTER

Calabash leaders are proposing rules that would set up zoning districts in and around town, require people to obtain permits before trimming certain types of trees and have businessmen place their dumpsters on concrete pads.

Town officials will accept comments on those and other proposed zoning ordinances at a public hearing Wednesday, Jan. 30, at 7 p.m. in the Calabash fire station.

The Calabash Planning and Zoning Board and its committees have drafted the proposed rules over a period of months, and they have been refined during a series of workshops by town commissioners.

If the rules are adopted, Calabash Code Enforcement Officer Ed Schaack would be responsible for enforcing them in town and in the extraterritorial area, which covers most property within a mile of the town limits.

Adoption of the ordinances would give Calabash the most comprehensive set of zoning ordinances of any town in the area, including the restrictive beach communities.

Schaack said proposed rules on zoning districts, off-street parking, landscaping and tree preservation, signs, refuse containers, abandoned structures and junked vehicles would have the most impact on the area. Other regulations would deal

with noise, light and travel trailer parks. There are 55 pages of proposed subdivision regulations in the 207-page book of ordinances.

The zoning ordinances set forth the types of land uses that are permitted in different areas. Calabash presently has four zoning districts, with no zoning in the extraterritorial area.

The new ordinance would establish 12 zoning districts in and around town. They include three residential, two manufactured home and two business districts, as well as industrial, conservation, agricultural, campground and planned unit development districts.

Each district would have different permitted and conditional uses and different dimensional requirements for property. Applicable deed restrictions from each subdivision would be incorporated into the zoning ordinances. The map can be viewed at the town hall.

Sign regulations, which have been a sore point between town officials and businessmen since the town started enforcing an eight-year-old ordinance last year, make up 20 pages of the new zoning rules.

The stated purpose of the new sign ordinance is to create a pleasing environment and good appearance and to promote highway safety. Design standards for signs and

regulations on campaign signs are in the ordinance. Banners, off-premises signs and portable signs would be among the signs that are prohibited.

Non-conforming signs would be given anywhere from six months to three years to comply with the code. The length of the grace period would depend on the value of the sign.

Two other sections of the zoning ordinances that could directly affect merchants establish regulations for off-street parking and dumpsters.

The parking rules spell out parking space requirements for all different types of business. Owners of restaurants, for instance, would have to provide one space per employee during the largest shift and spaces for 30 percent of the maximum seating capacity.

Businessmen also would be affected by a section of the ordinance dealing with refuse containers. It would require dumpsters to be placed on concrete pads with guard posts. Dumpsters would have to be screened on three sides so they are not visible from the street.

Another section of the proposed code is designed to protect trees and shrubs and beautify the town while reducing storm water runoff and soil erosion.

The landscaping and tree preser-

vation ordinance would apply to all new development. Existing development would be affected if it is improved or if the use or ownership of the property is changed.

The ordinance would require buffer zones in areas where different zoning districts meet and where vehicular use areas such as streets and parking lots come together.

Landowners affected by the ordinance would be required to submit a landscaping plan to the building inspector. In most cases, a certificate of occupancy would not be issued until the landscaping was complete.

Tree alteration permits would be required to cut or destroy certain types of trees including wax myrtles, crape myrtles, dogwoods, hollies and live oaks. Proposed fines are \$50 for each tree damaged and \$100 for each tree that is illegally removed.

Also as part of the new zoning ordinances, the code enforcement officer would be able to do something about abandoned structures and abandoned, nuisance or junked vehicles.

The town could order repair, closing or demolition of abandoned buildings that threaten the health or safety of the people. The town also could remove junked cars and vehicles abandoned on public or private property.

Friends Credit Couple's Action With Saving Life

Geri Preslar wouldn't be alive today if it weren't for the quick responses on Jan. 12 of a couple from Hickman's Crossroads, says Gloria Hunsucker.

Mrs. Hunsucker, an Ocean Isle Beach resident and a good friend of Mrs. Preslar, said they were in a party of six dining that Saturday night at Dockside Restaurant in Calabash after bowling.

Mrs. Preslar is an Ocean Isle Beach property owner and part-time resident. She was down for a week at the beach. Her husband, a lieutenant colonel at Camp Springs, Md., had stayed behind because of the Persian Gulf situation.

After eating, Mrs. Preslar rose from the table, saying she was sick and needed some fresh air. Outside the restaurant but in sight of her friends, she blacked out and fell. Two of her tablemates rushed outside, but few others inside the restaurant moved, said Mrs. Hunsucker.

That is, except for Darryl and Ramona Hester. She is a nurse at Grand Strand Hospital in Myrtle Beach, S.C. He is the pastor of Beulah Baptist Church at Hickman's Crossroads.

"I never saw such a reaction in my life," recalled Mrs. Hunsucker. "They were wonderful. They just left

their meal and went. There was no pulse, her eyes were dilated and she had stopped breathing. They covered her with a blanket and began CPR (cardio pulmonary resuscitation)."

Friends kept back the gathering crowd and called the Calabash Emergency Medical Service. The Hesters rode with Mrs. Preslar on the ambulance to The Brunswick Hospital at Supply, then returned Sunday to check on her recovery.

Mrs. Preslar is now in Charlotte with a daughter, undergoing additional testing to determine why she became ill.

Mrs. Hunsucker had only compliments for the professionalism and kindness of the emergency volunteers and hospital personnel who cared for her friend, and especially the Hesters.

"Without them we know she would have died," said Mrs. Hunsucker.

While the six diners didn't know the Hesters, they had seen them before—earlier that day at the lanes, with a group of young bowlers.

"It was like they (the Hesters) were supposed to be with us Saturday," she said. "I can't tell you how grateful we are to these people."



STAFF PHOTO BY DOUG RUTTER

Bus Bogs Down

Some West Brunswick High School students got home from school a little late last Thursday when their bus bogged down in a ditch off Four Mile Road near Ocean Isle Beach. The bus driver apparently pulled the bus over to the side of the road to discipline the passengers, and the vehicle became stuck in the mud. A Brunswick County Schools tow truck pulled the bus out of the ditch. Nobody was injured.

Chore Workers' Salaries, Job Status Is 'Developing' Issue

BY TERRY POPE

Four Brunswick County Department of Social Services chore workers lost their jobs Jan. 1 when they failed to obtain a state's license as a nurse's aide.

DSS employs about 35 chore workers who were serving approximately 96 patients in December through the department's three home health care programs: Title XX, Community Alternatives Program (CAP), and Personal Care Services (PCS).

Although the workers are now required to pass a 75-hour nurse's aide I training course, salaries and the job description for chore providers haven't changed in Brunswick County.

About 30 chore providers met with DSS department heads last week to ask that their jobs be reclassified so that salaries can be increased to match their added qualifications.

Chore providers now earn \$4.16 per hour, or around \$8,450 per year, compared to the county's janitorial staff workers, who earn \$11,600 per year. Chore workers are considered county employees with full benefits.

The DSS board is expected to investigate the issue at its meetings in coming months.

Interim County Manager David Clegg said the need to reclassify state and federally-funded workers is a function for the state personnel commission, not the county. Chore workers attending the department meeting last week had been told that the county held the right to increase salaries for social services employees based on Chapter 126 of the N.C. General Statutes.

Clegg said the county must request that jobs be reclassified to move workers up to a higher pay grade.

"This whole issue is just developing," Clegg said. "I'm expecting some very specific recommendations from the DSS board. They're in a better position to know more about their needs at this point."

County commissioners are not likely to take action on the matter until budget time in June. Chore providers have been lobbying commissioners for support of better pay and have also asked that the county step in to rewrite their job descriptions.

"I know the whole issue is coming," Clegg added. "I have gotten wind of the issues, but they haven't been firmed up yet."

The State Nursing Board succeeded last year in having legislation passed that requires all home health care providers be licensed by the state as a nurse's aide as of Jan. 1. In order to keep their jobs, all chore workers had to pass a 75-hour training course, which was offered locally last fall at Brunswick Community College.

Brunswick County DSS Director Jamie Orrock said the N.C. Division of Social Services opposed the license requirements. The regulation was aimed more at private businesses than county-operated programs, he said.

Last January, DSS decided to operate its own home health care program for Medicaid recipients rather than to contract those services out to private companies. Originally, chore workers were to provide chores, with no personal hygiene, bathing or grooming involved, Orrock said. But with the changes in the needs of the clients, the job requirements also changed.

According to the county's job description, a chore provider's tasks include "house cleaning, shopping for food, preparing meals and providing transportation to medical appointments. Personal care includes tasks related to physical care and feeding of clients such as meal planning, assisting with bathing and grooming, and basic first aid."

To obtain a nurse's aide license, chore workers must receive instruction in a number of areas that are not covered in the county's job description. Areas covered in the nurse's aide course include but are not limited to: bedpan and urinal use; bowel and bladder retraining; perineal and catheter care; enemas; empty drainage devices from body cavities and wounds; infection control; surgical skin preps and scrubs; apply and removal of EKG monitor leads; postmortem care; maintaining vital signs; cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and Heimlich maneuver and other nutritional or personal care areas.

Clegg said the county should view the new training requirements "as a good thing from a liability standpoint."

To keep their state licenses, home health care providers must remain employed as a nurse's aide. However, the county's job description for chore workers, as it now reads, doesn't match the requirements needed to remain a nurse's aide. Chore providers are concerned that if the state's job description isn't changed, they may lose their licenses when renewals are needed in two years.

Clegg said it isn't the first time the state has enacted a program first and then "tried to figure out how to do it and wonder how it's going to work."

"It will work eventually," he added. "The start up isn't always easy."

Among those fired Jan. 1 was 72-year-old Rose Ledet of Long Beach. She had been caring for the invalid mother of Jeannette Roach, a deputy with the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department, for a number of years.

"The family is retaining her and social services is sending someone else to help her," Ms. Roach said. "The training itself is a good thing, but our case was so unique. There should have been special provisions for someone who has been on the job for as long as she has."

Orrock wrote to the Division of Social Services to ask if an exception could be made from the license requirements for Ms. Ledet, whom he said is "capable of meeting the needs of this client but not of meeting the certification requirements."

The state would not allow an exception. The county doesn't expect to lose chore workers because of the salary scale. In a memo to chore providers, Orrock said the workers' salaries increased both in January and July of last year and are scheduled to increase again in April 1991.

"While most employees may feel their salaries are low," Orrock wrote, "I will point out that your salaries reflect a much greater increase (plus benefits) than other county employees during this same time period."

The county often trains workers, only to lose them to higher paying positions with private companies. "That's an old trend," Clegg said.

DELANA'S A CUT ABOVE
Full Service Family Salon

WELCOMES
Bernice Babson Gurganus
'Bernice invites all her friends and customers to A CUT ABOVE.'

Specializing in the latest cuts, styles, perms, hot waxing, makeup and nails.

Walk-Ins Welcome • 754-7234
Delana Holden, Owner/Stylist
Upper level of Resort Plaza, Hwy. 17 S., Shallotte

Shade's & Shadows
Just Arrived!

Traditional Beauty...
Wrought Iron Lamps

These handsome lamps are available as 4-1/2 ft. floor lamps, 2-1/2 ft. hearth lamps or 2 ft. desk or table lamps. Shade's & Shadows is pleased to offer these new lamps at affordable prices so hurry!

*We also offer lamp repair

Take Hwy. 130 West, Near Whiteville
640-2758 • Open Mon.-Sat. 10-6 • (Just past BEMC)

We Ship To You!!

LEVOLOR®
Ready Made Aluminum

1" MiniBlinds
In White or Alabaster Color

Size	Price	Size	Price	Size	Price
17 x 42	\$18.00	25 x 64	\$24.00	44 x 64	\$38.00
23 x 42	\$19.00	26 x 64	\$24.00	45 x 64	\$39.00
24 x 42	\$20.00	27 x 64	\$25.00	46 x 64	\$39.00
26 x 42	\$21.00	28 x 64	\$25.00	47 x 64	\$40.00
29 x 42	\$22.00	29 x 64	\$26.00	48 x 64	\$44.00
31 x 42	\$23.00	30 x 64	\$26.00	51 x 64	\$44.00
35 x 42	\$24.00	31 x 64	\$28.00	52 x 64	\$45.00
36 x 42	\$26.00	32 x 64	\$28.00	60 x 64	\$52.00
52 x 42	\$32.00	33 x 64	\$31.00	71 x 64	\$55.00
59 x 42	\$43.00	34 x 64	\$31.00	72 x 64	\$56.00
71 x 42	\$45.00	35 x 64	\$32.00	73 x 64	\$61.00
72 x 42	\$46.00	36 x 64	\$34.00	23 x 72	\$24.00
35 x 50	\$26.00	37 x 64	\$36.00	27 x 72	\$28.00
36 x 50	\$28.00	38 x 64	\$36.00	29 x 72	\$29.00
52 x 50	\$37.00	39 x 64	\$36.00	30 x 72	\$30.00
71 x 50	\$50.00	40 x 64	\$36.00	31 x 72	\$30.00
72 x 50	\$50.00	41 x 64	\$36.00	32 x 72	\$31.00
23 x 64	\$22.00	42 x 64	\$37.00	33 x 72	\$33.00
24 x 64	\$23.00	43 x 64	\$37.00	34 x 72	\$33.00

Custom Sizes & Colors Available
Shipping Charges Extra

The BLIND SPOT

395-5221 WILMINGTON
M-SAT, 10-6
1039 S. College Rd.

347-2047 JACKSONVILLE
MASTERCARD-VISA
DISCOVER • G.O.D.

TOLL FREE 1-800-437-2930