



SAMARITAN'S PURSE representatives Pat Pilkington (left) and Shirley Dowell (right) pose with shower organizer Karen Acton beside a small display of the goods donated to pregnant women and infants victimized by the Bosnian war.

Area Women Good Samaritans For Bosnian War Torn Victims

BY LYNN CARLSON
"We have done a good deed, and today we have made a difference in the world."

Those were Karen Acton's closing words Monday after local organizations and individuals donated a moving van load of goods and nearly \$2,000 to help women and babies hurt by the violent aggression and "ethnic cleansing" resulting from the breakup of Yugoslavia and its former republics.

Their vehicle for contributing was Samaritan's Purse, a Boone-based ministry administered by Franklin Graham, son of the Rev. Billy Graham of Montreat. After seeing a television program about the ministry's work, Acton got the Sea Trail Garden Club interested in the needs of thousands of pregnant women, including rape victims, in the war-torn republics.

About 80 local women and one man attended a "baby shower" Monday at Sea Trail Plantation, sponsored by the Sea Trail Garden Club, at which two Samaritan's Purse representatives told of their experiences visiting Croatia and outfitting a "safe home" to care for 20 pregnant and postpartum women and their babies at a time.

Samaritan's Purse workers Pat Pilkington and Shirley Dowell saw first-hand the results of the systematic rape and torture of mothers and daughters and the slaughter of men and boys in the name of "ethnic cleansing." The two traveled to Croatia to furnish a three-story home near Zagreb, Croatia, where women—Bosnians, Croats and Serbs—can live in peace and safety during pregnancy and the early infancy of their babies.

Some are rape victims in their early teens who are unlikely ever to marry because they have been violated and may never recover, emotionally or physically, from the brutality they have suffered. Others have lost their homes and families and have husbands among the troops on all sides of the conflict.

But Samaritan's Purse doesn't make a distinction on the basis of ideology or circumstance; all are people in need of Christian care and comfort.

A missionary couple employed by Samaritan's Purse operates the home, whose staff includes a female obstetrician/gynecologist and a registered nurse.

Pilkington said she was touched



VFW AUXILIARIST Ellen Oellerich (left) and Cathy Sommers, president of Post 7288's auxiliary, show two of 30 "ditty bags" the organization's members sewed and filled with personal care items for the residents of a maternity home operated by Samaritan's Purse in Croatia.

by the outpouring of goods and dollars from local women. "You've obviously put your hearts in this. I'd love to be there when the women receive it," she said as a Frederickson van loaded 28 boxes for transport to the Boone office. The company donated the transportation.

Inside those boxes were goods ranging from dozens of homemade baby booties and sweaters to the blankets and sleeping bags the home will need for the harsh winter ahead.

Numerous local organizations contributed, including Calvary Baptist Church, which gave clothing; the Carolina Shores Property Owners Association, which collected sweaters; and St. Brendan's Catholic Church, which gave \$411 from its "poor box" plus another \$434 in individual gifts.

Sea Trail donated accommodations for Pilkington and Dowell. Greensboro-based Hanes donated canvas zipper bags. Johnson & Johnson sent boxes of baby powder and other infant products.

The auxiliaries of VFW Post

7188 in Calabash sewed and filled 30 "ditty bags" with personal care items like shampoo, washcloths and toothbrushes.

A friend of Acton's left her home in Washington, D.C., at 2 a.m. Monday in order to arrive in time for the event and donate a baby's snowsuit she knitted herself.

"One woman made just booties," Acton said. "Others made sweaters and hats." The shower luncheon alone raised \$1,026.

Sea Trail resident Louisa Cilento shared with the women her experience as a child in Italy during World War II. "The government took all our food and rationed it. We had to learn to make do with what we had. I say now that if I didn't die in '43, I'll never die of hardship."

"I hope someday the people in Bosnia can learn to love each other and live in peace. If I could talk to those women, I'd tell them that even though they live in troubled times, they can somehow succeed like my family did."

Eight Injured When School Bus Rear-Ended

BY SUSAN USHER
Seven students and an adult were injured last Thursday when a driver rear-ended a school bus that was stopping to discharge a passenger.

It was the first accident of the 1993-94 school year involving a school bus, said Assistant Superintendent Bill Turner.

"The main thing is the kids were not seriously hurt," said Bill Turner, assistant superintendent of schools.

Karen Thompson, 30, of Winnabow was charged with failure to reduce speed in the accident that occurred Thursday afternoon on Danford Road (S. 1513) near Bolivia. N.C. Highway Patrol Trooper Roy L. Murray investigated the accident.

According to Murray's report, Bus No. 139 driver Inna Hewett Galloway was eastbound on Danford Road with 43 Bolivia Elementary School students as passengers. She gave the signal to stop to let off a student and the truck, a 1987 Ford, ran into the rear of the bus.

Five students on the bus were injured, one seriously, with four treated and released at Doshier Memorial Hospital in Southport. Jamie Car-

penter, 10, of Boiling Spring Lakes, received serious but non-incapacitating injuries. Thompson and two children, Christy, 10, and Jason, 6, in her truck, were transported to The Brunswick Hospital at Supply with complaints of injury. Damage to the pickup truck was estimated at \$4,500 and to the school bus, also a 1987 Ford, \$8,500. Animal waste management systems will be topic of the 1993 farm tour sponsored by the Brunswick Soil and Water Conservation District Thursday, Sept. 30.

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Animal Waste Management Tour Focus

Animal waste management systems will be topic of the 1993 farm tour sponsored by the Brunswick Soil and Water Conservation District Thursday, Sept. 30.

Several swine operations will be toured, with representatives of Murphy Farms, Carroll's Foods, J. & K. Farms and Browns of Carolina speaking on operations associated with each of these companies.

District Conservationist Harold Jones will also discuss soil types needed to install a waste management system.

The tour is open to all interested persons. The bus will depart from Supply Recreational Park on N.C. 211 north of U.S. 17 at 1 p.m. and will return at approximately 6 p.m.

Reservations for the meal that will be served afterward are due by Sept. 28 and may be made by calling Mamie Wilson at the Brunswick District office, 253-4458. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Brunswick Land Use Plan On CRC Agenda

Brunswick County's five-year land use plan update is scheduled for consideration today (Thursday) during the N.C. Coastal Resources Commission meeting in Wilmington.

The two-day commission meeting is taking place at the Coast Line Convention Center.

Also on the agenda for Thursday is consideration of comments on a draft amendment to the inlet hazard area of environmental concern to delete a portion of Bald Head Island.

A 4 p.m. public hearing Thursday will be on a proposal to loosen restrictions on building breakwaters along rivers, bays and sounds. The hearing, to take place in Room B, would make permits for breakwaters cheaper and faster to obtain, following a 15-year study which determined that breakwaters can help coastal grasses grow along inland waterways.

General public comments will be heard on any coastal issue at 9 a.m. Thursday, also in Room B.

Scheduled presentations include a report on Hurricane Emily, an erosion rate update and local funding options for beach nourishment.

On Friday, committee reports will be heard.

BCC Fall Enrollment Drops, But Some Programs Thriving

BY SUSAN USHER

Student headcount appears to be down 5 percent to 7 percent this fall at Brunswick Community College compared to a year ago, Dean of Students Beth McLean reported last week.

However, the number of full-time equivalent students, which is the basis for state funding of programs, won't be determined until later in the quarter.

Registrar Lynn Morgan said Tuesday the final headcount for fall quarter is 880, compared to 911 last fall. That reflects a statewide trend of increased enrollment during depressed economic conditions and drops when the economy improves, BCC President W. Michael Reaves told trustees last week.

Last year's enrollment reflected a 27 percent increase over the previous year, he said.

"I don't know how we could continue to sustain the growth we had last year," said Reaves, given that a community college is expected to be able to absorb only about 5 percent growth within its existing budget. Several departments showed in-

creases in enrollment, led by general education, the program that students enroll in when they plan to transfer to a four-year college. Cosmetology, health information technology and records management showed gains as well, while enrollment in the automotive and welding programs dropped.

McLean said 29 high school upperclassmen are enrolled in courses in three departments under cooperative agreements with the public school system. Sixteen are enrolled as full-time cosmetology students, taking 16 credit hours, while 10 are enrolled in electronics and three in auto mechanics.

Trustees also heard from Reaves and Chairman Dave Kelly on plans to promote passage of a statewide bond referendum. If the referendum passes, BCC stands to receive \$4 million for construction of a build-

ing to house its growing allied health curriculum programs and other courses.

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