



NANCY PRICE, adult services coordinator for the Brunswick County Library Department, demonstrates the computer that allows books and other materials to be borrowed from libraries across the country through the inter-library loan program. The department recently received new computers for public use, which have been set up in the Shallotte and Southport branches.

STAFF PHOTO BY ERIC CARLSON

TEMPORARY SITE NEEDED

Keeping Shallotte Library Open Is Goal Of Meeting

BY ERIC CARLSON
The West Brunswick Library in Shallotte is going to close for four to six months next spring. But at least some of the collection could be moved to a temporary library if enough people volunteer to staff it and someone agrees to donate a building.

The Friends of the West Brunswick Library will hold a public meeting Friday, Nov. 19, at the National Guard Armory in Shallotte to discuss ways of keeping the library open to the public.

Construction is expected to begin March 3, 1994, on a major addition and renovation to the Shallotte and Southport library branches. Current plans call for the libraries to be closed and for all books and equipment to be put in storage until mid-

July. Staff from the two closed libraries will be temporarily assigned to the new branches in Leland and Yaupon Beach.

The Brunswick County Library Board of Trustees has indicated it would consider allowing the Shallotte library to remain open at a temporary location. But it does not have the funds to lease a building or to pay for the additional staff needed to keep it open.

At the board's last meeting, Friends of the Library representatives were told that a supervisor could be assigned to oversee volunteers at a temporary branch if the group can arrange to set it up.

Next Friday's meeting is aimed at drumming up support for the effort to keep the library open, said

Friends member Sue McCann.

"We want folks to come with ideas about how to keep the library running during that time," said McCann. "We need people who are willing to donate their time to staff a temporary library. And we are looking for available space where we can relocate temporarily."

"So I would urge anyone interested in donating a building for six months or so to come to the meeting or contact us," she said. "We need help if we want to have a library."

Similar community efforts helped build a library in Leland and raised nearly \$50,000 toward the construction of a new branch on Oak Island.

For more information about the meeting and the effort to keep the Shallotte library open, call Blanche Bechtel at 579-7826.

Three Hearings Set At Sunset; Members To Be Sworn Dec. 6

BY LYNN CARLSON
Sunset Beach Town Council has three public hearings on its agenda for the Dec. 6 regular meeting at 7 p.m.

Also at that time, the mayor and council members beginning new terms of office will be sworn in by Town Administrator Linda Fluegel.

In the Nov. 2 municipal election Mayor Mason Barber was re-elected, as were council members Julia Thomas and Ed Gore. New member Herb Klinker will take his place on the board after having defeated incumbent Bud Scramton by two votes.

Topics of the scheduled public hearings are:

■ A proposal to amend the town's building inspection procedure to include concrete slabs used for driveways, garage floors, carports, patios, walkways, etc., to protect property owners against inferior workmanship.

Planning Board Chairman Richard Good said such inspections are currently not covered by building

codes, "and there's a lot of shoddy work going on in non-living areas."

Concrete slabs on the ground would be required to be at least 3.5 inches thick and after 28 days be able to withstand 2,500 pounds per square inch "except where weather exposure requires greater strength and air-entrained concrete."

Unreinforced slabs would be required to have control joints at least a quarter of the depth of the slab, with joints spaced no more than 10 feet apart.

Also included in the proposed amendment is a schedule for inspecting public buildings, institutions, high-rise and assembly buildings for "identifying activities and conditions...that pose danger of fire, explosion or related hazards." The schedule is required by the N.C. Department of Insurance, Good said.

Inspections would be performed once a year on "hazardous, institutional, high-rise, assembly and residential" buildings except for one- and two-family dwellings, and only on the interior common areas of multi-family buildings.

Every three years, inspections would be required for businesses, mercantile storage facilities and churches.

■ A suggested amendment to the zoning ordinance to allow walkways three feet or narrower and six inches above the ground beyond 125 feet seaward of property lines abutting the Main Street right-of-way. Each walkway would be required to have a "keep off the dunes" sign posted at its end.

■ Addition of a proposed MR-2A (mainland residential) zoning district in which the minimum front yard setback would be 25 from the property line. Good explained that the zone would apply onto the subdivision along Hickory Street, an older development in which homeowners have difficulty building to conform to the 50-foot setbacks required in the existing MR-2 zone.

"This planning board would not allow creation of other MR-2A zones," Good said. "This (proposal) is designed to correct this one problem alone, and that's the only change we propose."

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