

Robertson Is 1993 Realtor Of Year

William E. Robertson was honored as 1993 Realtor of the Year and installed as 1994 president by the Brunswick Islands Board of Realtors at its Christmas party held last month at the Jones Byrd Pavilion at Sea Trail Plantation.

Robertson is employed with R.H. McClure Realty of Ocean Isle Beach. At the member-guest event, the board recognized members for their contributions during 1993 and formally installed its 1994 leadership.

Betty Williamson presented the past president's award to Jimmy Sanderford, the vice president's award to Allan Dameron and the secretary-treasurer's award to Peggy Stanley. Robertson received the president-elect award.

Jim Sandy, regional vice president, installed these officers in addition to Robertson: Linda Spivey, vice president; Peggy Stanley, president-elect; Anne Arnold, secretary; Dave Nelson, treasurer; and Evelyn Bullock, director.



INCOMING Brunswick Islands Board of Realtors officers are (from the left) Anne Arnold, Linda Spivey, Bill Robertson, Evelyn Bullock and Peggy Stanley. Dave Nelson is not pictured.

Also recognized were state directors Frank Williamson and, in his absence, Alan Holden, and two members with perfect meeting attendance, Stanley and Robertson.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to the provisions of N.C.G.S. 160A-269, an offer to purchase Lot 584 and Lot 585, Section 9, Plat 7/38, Boiling Spring Lakes has been upset. The upset bid is in the amount of \$2,000. Within ten days from the date hereof any person may raise the bid by not less than ten percent of the first one thousand dollars and five percent of the remainder. Any upset bid must be deposited with the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners may at any time reject any and all bids.

This the 20th day of January, 1994.

Brunswick County Board of Commissioners
Joyce C. Johnson, Interim Clerk to the Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Town Council of Sunset Beach will hold a public hearing Tuesday, January 25, 1994 at 7:00 P.M. at the Jones/Byrd Pavilion in Sunset Beach, N.C.

Purpose: To hear comments and review written comments on the amendment to the Southwest Brunswick, N.C. 201 Facilities Plan Calabash/Sunset Beach Planning area.

The 201 amendment and accompanying maps are available at the Town Hall of Sunset Beach during regular business hours.

Oral and written comments are welcome. Written comments should be forwarded prior to the hearing to Sunset Beach Town Hall, 220 Shoreline Drive, Sunset Beach, NC 28468

Linda Fluegel, Administrator

New Tax Law Impacts The Self-Employed

If you're self-employed and not sure whether you should grin or grimace at the new tax law, the N.C. Association of Certified Public Accountants (CPAs) offers the following information to help you decide. Although the majority of laws won't affect your 1993 tax return, the biggest change—an increase in tax rates—is retroactive to the 1993 tax year.

Higher Tax Rates

The new tax law—the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993—added two new tax rates, effective Jan. 1, 1993. A 36-percent rate applies to taxable incomes that exceed \$115,000 for single taxpayers and \$140,000 for married couples. In addition, taxpayers face a 39.6-percent tax rate on incomes in excess of \$250,000.

Because self-employed individuals pay taxes on business income at personal tax rates, some high-earning, self-employed taxpayers may find themselves subject to considerably higher tax rates.

Medicare Ceilings

Many self-employed people in higher tax brackets will also see more of their earnings subject to the Medicare tax. Previously, self-employed taxpayers paid the 2.9-percent Medicare tax only on their first \$135,000 of self-employment earnings. Beginning in 1994, the new law eliminates the \$135,000 cap on earnings subject to the tax.

As a result, self-employed taxpayers will pay the 2.9-percent Medicare tax on all their self-employment income. Since employees share the Medicare tax with employers (each pays 1.45 percent), the elimination of the \$135,000 ceiling has a greater impact on the self-employed.

Health Insurance

On the brighter side, the law retroactively reinstates the health insurance deduction for self-employed

individuals. Under the prior law, which expired on June 30, 1992, a self-employed individual could generally deduct 25 percent of the premiums paid for health insurance coverage.

The new law reinstates the deduction retroactively from July 1, 1992, through Dec. 31, 1993. An amended 1992 return can be filed to claim the 25-percent deduction for the second half of 1992.

Business Equipment

In the past, a business could elect to deduct in one year up to \$10,000 of the cost of business equipment in lieu of depreciating the equipment's cost over a period of years.

For tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 1992, taxpayers can elect to deduct up to \$17,500 of the cost of qualifying assets placed in service during the year. The maximum deduction phases out dollar-for-dollar once the total cost of qualifying property placed in service during the year exceeds \$200,000.

Business Expenses

Self-employed individuals will see several business deductions cut back or eliminated in 1994. The new law affects a broad range of business expenses including business meals and entertainment expenses, club dues and business travel deductions for family members.

For tax years beginning after Dec. 31, 1993, the deductible portion of allowable business meals and entertainment expenses drops to 50 percent of the current 80 percent. For many self-employed professionals who meet clients in restaurants, reducing the deduction for these expenses will add to the cost of doing business.

Beginning in 1994, no deduction will be allowed for any type of club dues, including business, social, luncheon, athletic, sporting, hotel and air travel clubs, even if the club is used principally for business-related activities.

However, you may deduct business expenses for meals and enter-

tainment that occur at such clubs to the extent that they otherwise qualify as a business deduction.

The new law also imposes tougher limits on deducting travel expenses for family members who accompany you on a business trip. Prior to the new law, a self-employed taxpayer could deduct a family member's travel expenses if there was a bona fide business purpose for taking the person along. However, beginning in 1994, Congress has added another requirement: You can deduct the travel expenses of a spouse or dependent only if that person is your bona fide employee.

CPAs suggest that your best defense against the new tax law is a thorough understanding of how the changes affect you and your business. Make the time now to determine how you can minimize the tax law's impact on your business income and, if necessary, seek the assistance of a professional tax adviser.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Sunset Beach Board of Adjustment will hold a public hearing at 10:00 am on January 27, 1994 at the Sunset Beach Town Hall.

Purpose: Review of Appeal by William F. Taylor, Jr. regarding setback requirements for zoning district MR-2, Sunset Lakes Subdivision, Section 1 Lot 30.

Linda Fluegel, Zoning Officer

TOWN OF BOLIVIA PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

There will be a public hearing held by the Bolivia Board of Aldermen on January 24, 1994 at 7:00 p.m. in the Bolivia Town Hall. The purpose of the public hearing is to amend the ordinance which established the Town of Bolivia Planning Organization. The ordinance will be amended to permit one representative from the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction to serve on the Planning Board and one representative from the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction to serve on the Board of Adjustment. The proposed amendment is on display at the Bolivia Town Hall. The public is invited to attend the public hearing.

Ina M. King, Town Clerk

PUBLIC HEARING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT TOWN OF CALABASH

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held by the Board of Adjustment of the Town of Calabash at 6:30 P.M. Tuesday, January 25, 1994 at the Town Hall to consider the following appeal.

CASE NO. 1-94: Mr. Robert M. Fyock of 1-E Pine Ct. Calabash, NC requesting a variance from Section 8.01.01: C. Dimensional Requirements; 5. Minimum required rear yard.

To build a deck at 1-E Pine Court, Carolina Shores Calabash, NC.

Janet Thomas, Town Clerk

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Town Commissioners of Calabash will hold a public hearing Thursday, February 17, 1994 at 7:00 p.m. at the Calabash Fire Department in Calabash, NC.

Purpose: To hear comments and review written comments on the amendment to the Southwest Brunswick, NC 201 Facilities Plan Calabash/Sunset Beach Planning area.

The 201 amendment and accompanying maps are available at the Town Hall of Calabash during regular business hours.

Oral and written comments are welcome. Written comments should be forwarded prior to the hearing to Calabash Town Hall, P.O. Box 4967, Calabash, NC 28467.

Janet Thomas, Town Clerk

ATTENTION Mobile Home Park, Marine and Aircraft Storage Owners

The 1971 General Assembly passed a law governing operators of mobile home park, marina and aircraft owners in North Carolina.

The law is G.S. 105-316 of the North Carolina Machinery Act of 1971.

The owners of such park, marine or aircraft storage shall report to the county tax supervisor on or before January 15 of each year, the name of the owner, and a description of such trailers, boats or aircraft which are renting space in such park, marine or aircraft storage.

Boyd Williamson, Tax Administrator

NOTICE

Brunswick County Tax Listing for 1994

DUTY TO LIST

It is the duty of every person, firm or corporation to list all personal property, except registered or "tagged" motor vehicles during the month of January, 1994, as required by law.

PERMANENT LISTING OF REAL ESTATE

Effective January 1, 1990, the Brunswick County Commissioners adopted a system of permanent listing of real property. Real property is automatically listed.

DO NOT LIST REGISTERED "TAGGED" MOTOR VEHICLES

Effective January 1, 1993, the North Carolina General Assembly enacted a law effecting the time taxes are billed and collected on registered or "tagged" motor vehicles. Do not list your "tagged" motor vehicles during the regular January listing period.

YOU MUST LIST

Only unregistered or "untagged" motor vehicles should be listed during the regular January listing period, along with boats, mobile homes, recreational watercraft or aircraft, income producing furnished rental property and farm equipment. All businesses in Brunswick County must list their business personal property.

If you acquired any of these items or other personal property, or became a new resident of Brunswick County in 1993, and did not receive a listing form for 1994, please contact the Brunswick County Tax Office to request a tax listing form, (910) 253-4341 or 1-800-527-9001.

PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO LIST

The law further states "The penalty for failure to list these items before the close of the regular listing period (January 31, 1994) shall be ten percent (10%) of the tax levied for the current year on such property. Failure to list taxable property after specified time subjects owner to a fine of up to \$500.00."

ELDERLY/DISABILITY EXEMPTION

If you are 65 years of age, or if you are permanently disabled and if in either case your gross annual income does not exceed \$11,000, you may be eligible for an exemption of the first \$15,000 in assessed value of certain real and personal property. You **MUST** be a permanent resident of Brunswick County and a resident on the property for which you request the exemption.

GENERAL INFORMATION

All property is to be listed according to its value as of January 1, unless otherwise specified.

Under G.S. 105-311, tax listing by mail is permissible. All resident and non-resident taxpayers of Brunswick County during taxable year shall receive their abstract by mail. Anyone may list at the County Tax Office in the Governmental Complex at any time during the regular listing period. Office hours are 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, the month of January (the office will be closed Monday, January 17th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day).

Housing Grants Applications Being Accepted

The Farmers Home Administration will be accepting pre-applications for housing preservation grants through April 4.

The program is available to provide repairs for very-low and low-income homeowners, owners of rental property and co-ops whose residents have low incomes.

This is the only time during the current fiscal year in which organizations or public agencies may apply for the program.

The district office in Wilmington is the processing and servicing office for housing preservation grants. Interested individuals or organizations should contact James T. Johnson, district director, Farmers Home Administration, 4006 Oleander Dr., Suite 3, Wilmington NC 28403, (910)392-5696.

Workshop Set On Food Safety For Restaurants

A food safety workshop will be presented for food handlers on Feb. 18 by the Brunswick County Health Department.

The workshop will take place in the 911 Building at the Brunswick County Government Complex from 8:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

All restaurant owners and food handlers are being encouraged to attend. There is no charge for the workshop.

To register or get more information, call the health department by Feb. 11 at 253-4381, 457-5281 or 763-1312.