

# Shallotte Board Gives Okay To Junk Car Rules

BY DOUG RUTTER

In 90 days, Shallotte officials will start enforcing rules that prohibit "junked, nuisance and abandoned" vehicles anywhere in the town or within a mile of the city limits.

After lengthy discussion Tuesday night, aldermen voted 3-2 in favor of an ordinance aimed at cleaning up Shallotte and the outlying communities within its extraterritorial jurisdiction (ETJ).

Aldermen Carson Durham, Bill Allen and Morris Hall voted in favor of the controversial regulations, which were opposed by board members Roney Cheers and David Gause.

"Why do you want to plant flowers when you have junked cars sitting around?" Durham asked at Tuesday night's board meeting. "I think as a town board we need to look at the total town."

Said Gause, "I think we really need the ordinance, but I'm not sure the people of this town are ready to go along with it."

The new set of rules, which take effect Oct. 31, basically outlaw cars and trucks that are considered a nuisance or a health hazard or lower property values.

Mayor Sarah Tripp said she received a lot of telephone calls about the proposal. "Since I've been mayor or I probably got more calls on this ordinance than anything, in protest of it," she said.

During a 90-day grace period that ends on Halloween, town staff has been instructed to prepare a list of potential vehicles that could be considered in violation of the rules.

The regulations, a combination of state statutes and ordinances currently used in Sunset Beach and Yaupon Beach, will apply to vehicles parked on public and private property.

The ordinance defines a "junked" vehicle as one without a current license plate that is partially dismantled or wrecked, cannot be driven or is more than five years old and appears to be worth less than \$100.

"Nuisance" vehicles are defined as cars or trucks on public or private property that are determined to be a health or safety hazard or a public nuisance.

"Abandoned" vehicles are those that are parked illegally, left on a public street for more than seven days, left on property owned or operated by the town for more than 24 hours or left on private property for more than two hours without the

owner's consent.

The ordinance will allow each property owner to keep one "junked" vehicle as long as it is in the rear yard and "is entirely concealed from public view" in a garage or shed.

Shallotte native Merrell Hawes spoke out in opposition of the ordinance Tuesday night. He's afraid the rules will force him to dispose of one or more of the half dozen vehicles parked at his White Street residence.

Hawes said he stores his tools in the cars, and has been doing it for 40 years or more.

"I've got from \$200 to \$2,000 worth of tools in cars. One reason they're spread out is if somebody gets them they won't get all of them," Hawes explained.

Hawes said the guidelines are "mighty strict," although town officials said Tuesday they aren't sure if any of Hawes' vehicles would be classified as "junked" cars.

Mayor Tripp said there are several factors to consider. "Just because you park a car and take the license off it does not make it a junk car," she said.

Gause said he thinks the town needs the ordinance, but he questioned how officials are going to enforce the rules in the expansive, ETJ territory outside the town.

"I've got some reservations about it," he said. "I don't know how many cars you got out there but there's a lot of them. It's gonna take personnel if this is passed to stay after it."

## Chief Appointment Postponed

Shallotte officials decided Tuesday to postpone the appointment of a fire chief for the 1994-95 year until after an Aug. 16 meeting with fire department members.

Aldermen said they want to meet individually with each of the three men recommended by the department as possible fire chief appointees: Tim Carter, David Moore and Tony Hewett.

Carter has been fire chief for the last seven years, but he said two weeks ago he didn't expect to be reappointed because of recent tension between the department and town board.

Aldermen said Tuesday they want to meet with the entire department in an effort to improve relations. The meeting is scheduled Aug. 16 at

6:30 p.m. at the fire station.

Mayor Tripp said she thinks most of the problems in the past have been the result of misunderstanding and lack of communication.

"We're open-minded about it. The fire department wants to sit down with the mayor and board of aldermen," Moore said.

Added Hewett, "We need more communication between the two departments. We need to work closer together."

"Whatever happened in the past, let's start anew if we can," Durham said. "Shallotte could not get along without a volunteer fire department. We could not afford to pay for one."

Said Allen, "We're looking to make the fire department happy with us also. We want the fire department, need it and we're here to support it."

## Annexation Approved

Town board members voted to annex approximately 30 acres of commercial property Tuesday night at the request of two landowners.

Aldermen voted unanimously in favor of annexing two tracts owned by Jo Ann Simmons that are contiguous to the town limits.

One is a 14-acre tract just east of town that stretches from Holden Beach Road to Main Street. The other is a nine-acre tract at the north end of town off the U.S. 17 bypass.

Aldermen voted 4-1, with Cheers dissenting, to bring into the town limits a non-contiguous, 6.79-acre tract owned by Jason Simmons. The property is on Holden Beach Road across from Alice T's restaurant and adjacent to Shallotte Moose Lodge.

Shallotte Planning Board had recommended against annexation of the Jason Simmons property in part because it is not contiguous, according to member Shirley Waggoner-Eisenman.

She said last month the planning board also based its recommendation on the town's limited sewer system capacity and the small size of the sewer line serving the area.

However, Durham disputed those

claims. He said the town has plenty of sewer system capacity and the 2 1/2-inch sewer line that serves the property is large enough.

Jason Simmons told the town board Tuesday he plans to put a small business on the property.

## ABC Meeting

Shallotte officials have agreed to invite members of the Brunswick County ABC Board to a future meeting to discuss the possibility of merging the town and county systems.

Raymond Babson, a Shallotte resident and former member of the county ABC board, said he thinks the county board would be interested in consolidating the systems and it would benefit both the county and town.

Babson said a consolidated ABC system would be more efficient than the existing town and county systems and it would give the stores greater buying power and increased profits.

Shallotte officials have been at

odds with the county ABC board since it opened a store on Holden Beach Road four years ago. Town revenues from the Main Street store have dropped more than 60 percent since then.

The county ABC board's latest proposal to build a liquor store in the Ash community also has drawn fire from Shallotte officials, who fear a store west of town would result in further revenue cuts.

## No More Flyers

Fed up with flyers and handbills littering town parking lots, aldermen passed an ordinance Tuesday prohibiting people from sticking notices, posters and similar materials on vehicle windshields.


The rule makes it illegal for anyone to "nail, stick or otherwise affix bills, posters, advertisements, notices or others graphic matter upon automobiles, trucks or any other vehicle within the town."

Exceptions have been made for parking tickets and other citations issued by law enforcement officers.

The public is cordially invited to the Dedication and Open House of the Brunswick Community College Odell Williamson Auditorium with an address by The Honorable James B. Hunt, Jr. Governor of the State of North Carolina on Wednesday, the tenth of August Nineteen hundred ninety-four at six o'clock in the evening Supply, North Carolina Reception immediately following

## Treatment For Back Pain

For 86 million Americans, chronic pain is a way of life. But now, thanks to the COASTAL CAROLINAS PAIN CENTER, there's a place to go for pain that won't go away.



- Back pain is second only to childbirth as a reason for hospitalization.
- Back pain is the second leading cause of absenteeism from work in the U.S.
- Early intervention can prevent chronic pain

CALL KENNETH L. WILLEFORD, M.D. Anesthesiologist / Pain Management Specialist  
**COASTAL CAROLINAS PAIN CENTER**  
 FOR INFORMATION/APPOINTMENTS CALL  
**754-3099**

©1994 THE BRUNSWICK BEACON

## Host a foreign exchange student.



Your friendship is their American dream.

Each fall, Europe sends us its best students. Choose from among hundreds of English-speaking teenagers who are eager to spend a year attending high school and becoming a member of an American family. All students are fully insured and bring their own spending money. Host families provide room, board, and a caring family environment.

Hosting an EF Foundation exchange student is an educational and cultural experience for the whole family. For more information on hosting call


**MICHEL & DAVID HUNT**  
 (910)278-5052  
 or call 1-800-44-SHARE.

**EF** EF Educational Foundation for Foreign Study  
 a non-profit organization

ENJOY MORE AFFORDABLE INSURANCE

## Save with Nationwide's Home & Car Discount!

Insure both your home and car with Nationwide, and get a special money-saving discount on your homeowners insurance AND another money-saving discount on your auto insurance. Call today.



**Phillip W. Cheers**  
 4700 Main St., Shallotte, 754-4366

**NATIONWIDE INSURANCE**  
 Nationwide is on your side

Nationwide is a registered federal service mark of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company

## We've expanded around the corner!




Visit the new location to place an ad, subscribe to the Beacon and bring news releases.

The Brunswick Beacon has outgrown its present quarters on Main Street, where it has been for the past 23 years. Part of our operation has moved around the corner to 106 Cheers Street, formerly the law offices of Stanley & Stanley, next door to Shallotte Town Hall.

This is where you should come now to place classified and display ads, subscribe to the Beacon or to bring news releases.

The same office hours, 8:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, are in effect. The Printing Division of The Beacon remains at the Main Street location. Your local newspaper continues to be printed right here in Shallotte by Brunswick Beacon staffers.

We plan to mark this expansion soon with an Open House. We hope you will visit us and help us celebrate.

# THE BRUNSWICK BEACON

PHONE NUMBER REMAINS THE SAME: (910) 754-6890  
 MAILING ADDRESS REMAINS THE SAME: P.O. BOX 2558, SHALLOTTE, NC 28459  
 FAX NUMBER REMAINS THE SAME: (910) 754-5407