



RESCUE WORKERS prepare to use a Hurst cutting tool to remove the body of an unidentified woman from a car that burst into flames after it was hit by a tractor trailer truck while trying to cross U.S. 17 near Calabash Tuesday afternoon.

STAFF PHOTO BY ERIC CARLSON

Drivers Injured In Single-Vehicle Wrecks

Two drivers were injured and charged in single-vehicle accidents in Brunswick County Friday, Oct. 7, reports the N.C. Highway Patrol office in Wilmington.

Timothy Soles, 28, of Supply, was seriously injured when the 1984 Ford truck he was driving ran off Seashore Road (S.R. 1139) at approximately 1:15 a.m.

Trooper D.B. Harvell reported that the northbound truck ran off the road on the left and struck a tree.

Soles was charged with driving while impaired and driving while his license was revoked.

Cyrentha Bardon of Ash was treated at The Brunswick Hospital for serious, but not incapacitating, injuries Friday after a 7:40 a.m. accident in Ash.

According to the report filed by Trooper R.E. King, Bardon, 17, was traveling south on Big Neck Road (S.R. 1335) when her 1982 Honda ran off the roadway first on the right, then on the left, struck a mailbox and ran into a ditch. The car came out of the ditch and came to rest in a field.

Bardon was charged with reckless driving.

Changes Ahead For Ocean Isle VFD

Changes are on the way for the Ocean Isle Beach Volunteer Fire Department.

Meeting Saturday, the Ocean Isle Beach Fire Protection Association, which owns and operates the department, elected three new directors and agreed for firefighters to join a state association that provides attractive benefits.

More than 40 people attended the association's annual meeting, a record, according to spokesman Al Kale, who didn't know the previous record.

James Russ, Robert Ball and Maurice Moore were elected from a field of seven nominees to serve on the board of directors. They succeed directors Bill Bullington, Johnny Hill and Frank Couvillon.

Earlier the board met and elected Assistant Fire Chief Al Crawford to complete the term of Ray Ericksen,

who died in a highway accident last month.

The association also concurred with Odell Williamson's suggestion that the fire department join the N.C. Firemen's Association. The association hopes that benefits available through the association will help attract more firefighters and retain existing ones.

Kale said those benefits include life and accident insurance, a pension fund, group health insurance rates and access to training materials.

After Williamson announced to town commissioners Tuesday that the association would be asking the town to absorb the \$48 per member per year cost, Commissioner Kendall Suh volunteered to pay the \$480 needed for 10 firefighters.

"Partly to appease my conscious for my lack of past support and to avoid the extra cost to the town,"

said Suh, admitting he's one of the property owners who didn't respond to an association letter seeking \$25 contributions from all property owners.

Minutes earlier fellow Commissioner Ken Proctor called on the town to investigate levying a 5-cent fire tax on unimproved properties as a more equitable means of supporting the department, though he generally opposes tax increases. The association mailed out 2,200 letters and has received just \$12,000.

"That's not enough," he said. Suh opposed any kind of tax increase, saying the board could make allowances in the budget if the department needs more money.

Speaking to the association Saturday, Mayor Betty Williamson reaffirmed the town's commitment to financial support of the fire department and its first responder program.

Ocean Isle Will Pass Along New County Water Rate Hike

BY SUSAN USHER

Water rates are going up at Ocean Isle Beach for the second time this year.

This summer town commissioners adopted new rates to reflect a 10 percent increase in the cost of water it purchases from Brunswick County. The county rate went up two years ago, but the town chose to absorb the difference.

Tuesday, town commissioners upped the rate another 10 percent, again to pass along to customers an increase in the county wholesale water rate. The county announced its latest rate increase after Ocean Isle Beach had made the earlier change.

The 10-percent increase, which was recommended by the board's water committee, applies to all rate categories, said Mayor Betty Williamson, bringing the minimum usage rate of \$10 to \$11.

Committee members recommended against any additional changes until spring, when the town will know if it's getting a state grant to build a new water tank and can also confer with a state consultant, said the mayor.

It will also be spring before commissioners consider an ordinance to allow and regulate water meters for non-household use.

Commissioners had agreed earlier

this year to look into the feasibility of allowing the separate meters, after gauging the impact of increasing water rates and decreasing sewer rates.

Presently all water used for household, irrigation or other purposes—is measured through a single meter. It is the basis for sewer billing as well as water billing, whether or not the water entered the sewer system.

Mayor Williamson said the water committee had recommended the town attorney, engineer and building inspector work on language for an ordinance.

However, at Commissioner Ken Proctor's urging, she agreed for a committee to continue working on the project, with the goal of having an ordinance approved and in effect before the start of the 1995 season.

Based on consulting engineer Finley Boney's research into how other towns provide for separate meters, the cost could run as much as \$700 upfront, with no change in minimum monthly billing.

In other business the board commended clerk Mary Anne Metz for achieving a 100 percent collection rate for both 1993 and all back property taxes;

approved the planning board recommendation to have condominium sites designate in advance of the

1995 season where replacement heating and air conditioning units will be located to meet new elevation standards;

designated Commissioner Bill Benton, police commissioner, as the public official to deal with Alcoholic Beverage Control permit and record matters;

agreed to hire firefighter Brian Ericksen at \$10 an hour as provisional fire inspector through June 30, with the town to pay for any training expenses;

authorized the mayor to negotiate a right-of-way agreement with the N.C. Department of Transportation for improvements to Old Georgetown Road;

heard from Building Inspector Druied Roberson that his office issued 13 permits in town for construction valued at \$169,610 and six permits in the extraterritorial area for construction valued at \$25,830. "This month is a welcome breather for our office and for contractors before the fall storm," he said, noting that a large number of housing starts are planned, and for generally larger homes.

heard an update from Mayor Williamson and Commissioner Kendall Suh on the town's berm and re-nourishment project with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

YOU LOOK GREAT!



Your Optician Must Be
Optical Gallery

New Selection of Designer
Frames from



WE ARRANGE EYE EXAMS.

50% OFF

Clip & Save
YOUR CHOICE OF ANY FRAME IN STOCK
With Lens Purchase. Coupon must be presented at time of purchase. Not good with any other special offer. EXPIRES 10-31-94
OPTICAL GALLERY

Valuable Coupon

Across from Sandfiddler Restaurant, Hwy. 130, Shallotte
CALL TODAY 754-4680

Your Voice In Local Government!

On November 8th
Vote For

Douglas Simmons

District 1
County Commissioner

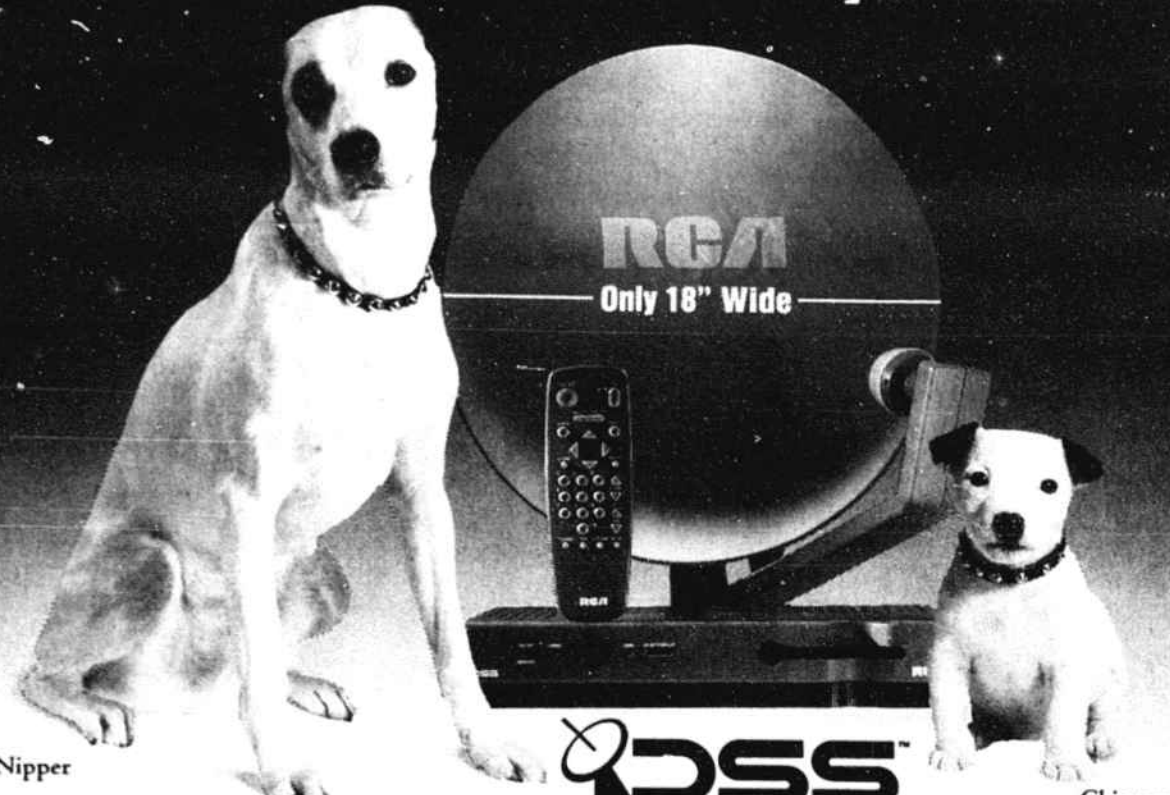
"Honesty and Integrity
in Government"

Paid for by the committee to Elect Douglas Simmons



STAFF PHOTO BY ERIC CARLSON

Introducing RCA Digital Satellite System



Nipper

Chipper

Sharper Picture. Clearer Sound. Greater Choice.

- Laser disc quality picture capability⁽¹⁾
- CD quality sound⁽¹⁾
- Great programming choices for the whole family

System prices start at \$699 DS1120RW
Professional installation available.

Featuring **UP TO 150 CHANNELS⁽²⁾ OF PROGRAMMING EXCITEMENT, ALL IN DIGITAL QUALITY!** **USSB**

"Product Is Selling Out In A Few Days—Not The 1-1/2 Weeks We Anticipated."

-Michael O'Hara, Gen. Mgr. RCA-DSS

RCA-Thomson struggles to meet demand for DSS. Initial response to digital home entertainment has been phenomenal!

If you truly want the best picture, sound and channel selection on your TV then DSS is for you. Right now we have a very limited number of units in stock (Monday Oct. 10th), but demand is outpacing supply. Come in and buy now or get a deposit down on your DSS from our next shipment.

(1)Quality of picture and sound are dependent upon the audio system and/or television used by consumer. Television also requires S-Video input to realize full capability of DSS receiver. (2)Total capacity available from two Hughes satellites. Second satellite scheduled for operation Fall, 1994. ©1994, DIRECTV™ and DSS™ are official trademarks of DIRECTV, Inc., a unit of GM Hughes Electronics. ©1994 USSB, Inc., is a subsidiary of Hubbard Broadcasting, Inc. ©1994, Thomson Consumer Electronics, Inc.

DEW'S **ACE Hardware** **Major Appliances Free Delivery**
411 Main St. North Myrtle Beach, SC 29582
Sales & Service On All Major Brands
DEW'S **ACE** **JENN-AIR**
ESTABLISHED 1977
(803)249-2331 or Toll Free 1-800-346-1630