

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Optometrist Served On Health Board, Encouraged Others

To the editor:
Subject: Eric Carlson's Dec. 15 column, "Is There A Doctor In The House?"

I was offended for optometry by the presentation of facts to indicate that an optometrist had never participated on the board. As the optometrist that served for three years on the Brunswick County Board of Health, I would like to state that I was not personally contacted by the county commissioners in regard to filling the seat that is designated for an optometrist. I have spoken with two other county optometrists and neither were contacted or approached by the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners.

Upon my resignation in 1992, I encouraged another medical professional to apply for that position. Later that term he was elected to the chairmanship.

We all have a responsibility and I encourage all to participate. I will say that patience is not only a plus, but a must. Bureaucracy causes the process to slow down and one must be willing to sit and wait for positive change. In defense of the health care professional, the schedule of work is not conducive for a sit and wait attitude. The majority of these people

are fast-paced action taking personalities. It is a difficult position to fill, so don't judge until you have been in that seat.

Dr. Christopher J. Moshoures
Shallotte

Defending Proctor

To the editor:

The charges against Ken Proctor are ridiculous and outrageous. We know Mr. Proctor professionally, politically and socially, and his morals and character are of the highest standards. We feel sure he will be cleared of these frivolous charges.

Tommy and Sue Lewis
Ocean Isle Beach

Likes The Beacon

To the editor:

Thanks for a great newspaper! We "discovered" Ocean Isle Beach in late 1992 and have returned three times since. We plan to move/retire there in 5-7 years.

We are very impressed by your articles and pictures, especially about wildlife, nature and the local environmental concerns. The rest of the paper is a joy to us and we read each copy many times.

Tom and Karen Igan
Huntington, W. Va.

We welcome your letters to the editor. Letters must have an original signature and must include your address and telephone number. (This information is for verification purposes only; we will not publish your street/mailling address or phone number.) Letters must be typed or written legibly. Address letters to:

The Brunswick Beacon, P.O. Box 2558, Shallotte NC 28459
Anonymous letters will not be published.

Write Us

Seeks Investigation Over Water District

To the editor:

A complete and thorough investigation of Brunswick County, the five county commissioners and the Utility Operations Board should be conducted by the state of North Carolina and the U. S. Government. This investigation should be initiated by Congressional leaders and the U.S. Justice Department.

The county as a whole is greater than its parts (districts, towns, municipalities). The price and costs of such public services as water and sewer are far less per taxpayer and equal than by piecemeal, such as the latest example of Shallotte Point.

The entire Shallotte Point area was to be under a capital improve-

ment bond until the commissioners cut 1,262 parcel owners out of the improvement bond in 1990. Then in December of 1991, the commissioners decided that those 1,262 parcel owners should have water and water lines too, but these parcel owners would have to pay more than the rest of the area. The result of this is that to divide into districts and small areas so that more taxing and spending can be done.

By the way, how much does 100 feet of water pipe cost? Mine is costing over \$7 per foot provided for by the county for me to pay. This includes the cost of laying and connecting done by contract instead of by the county engineers, which tax money pays for. If this work was done countywide and by the county engineers, I am sure that the costs could be cut in half.

As for the 1,262 parcel owners, which I am one of, having been discriminated against and forced to pay the special assessment, I am hoping that the state and federal government investigates and adjusts this matter equally.

There are 16 parcels on my road that I know of and at a cost of \$736.03 per parcel, adds up to \$11,776.48 for approximately 1,000 feet of water line. This figures out to be \$11.78 per foot. If there are more parcels, then the cost per foot is more.

I don't feel that this is being cost effective. A public works service should be on a countywide basis instead of piecemeal in order to be cost effective and equal.

A public works service should be voted on by the citizens that this service affects and not by the elected office holders.

James L. Morris
Shallotte Point

'Wonderful Coverage'

To the editor:

The article written by Doug Rutter on the Brunswick Buddies in your Dec. 15 edition will have such a positive impact on the program, we would be negligent not to comment Doug, and your newspaper, for such wonderful coverage.

Recent circumstances made it possible to expand the Buddies program from 15 "matches" to 30. Attracting qualified and committed adult volunteers has always been the limiting factor in serving the number of needy youth.

The clear, concise and accurate reporting of the Buddies program by Doug has already generated response from potential volunteers who were properly informed about the commitment they would be undertaking.

During the two hours Doug spent with us to learn the extent of the

program, he displayed professionalism, knowledge and an enthusiasm for his work. How fortunate you are to have Doug on your staff. Please thank him for such great coverage and thank you for using his article in such a prominent position.

The volunteers you helped us recruit will have a positive influence on the youth that might not have otherwise been reached.

Rusty Garman
Brunswick Buddies
Volunteer Coordinator

Likes Cooking Column

To the editor:

I am visiting in California and under some medical care. I miss Ocean Isle Beach and look forward to sending our news and reading Lynn, Susan and Eric's columns.

Also I am so happy for the new cooking column. I am going to make the pound cake for Christmas.

M. Pressley
Ocean Isle Beach

We hope you have a Merry Christmas and look forward to making you beautiful in 1995.



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Hay Ride With Santa And Friends

A sleigh ride? Oh, a HAY ride. In December? Rumor was Santa himself might show.

Friday the "Dolphin Buddies" from Union Elementary took Ellen Bulak's yellow school bus to Indigo Farms for a visit with the pigs and peacocks, goats and geese, cows and chickens, and yes, a hay ride.

News scoop of all scoops, Santa did come! We ran across him in the woods somewhere between the grape vineyard and the grain elevator. He was huffing and puffing and stumbling through the leaves toward one of the farm lanes. His reindeer had taken off through the woods, he said, and he was trying to catch them. Spotting their tracks in the bare dirt along the edge of the field, we took up the cause.

In the spirit of the season we gave the old bearded fellow a ride (Santa might have lost Rudolph and company, but he still had plenty of cookies and presents on him). Gail Novello made room for Santa beside her, in easy reach of the cookies. Off we went in hot pursuit of his team, as fast as 20 or so kids and six adults packed onto a long trailer behind a tractor could go.

Past almost picked clean fields of cotton, swampy bogs and animal pens we followed the trail. We kept

Susan Usher



an eye out for signs (that's Indian for tracks and stuff) and sang carols. Sandra Raymond, one of the teachers, was playing the guitar. She's funny sometimes, like when she pretends to be Elvis and sings "Blue Christmas". You should have heard!

At least we sang when you-know-who wasn't asking questions. That Crystal's going to be a reporter someday. She wanted to know everything: "I thought you only came out on Christmas Eve?"

"I'm rehearsing, sweetheart, to make sure I do it right."

"Is Rudolph really your deer?"

"Sure, he is."

We were trying to cheer Santa up, but he didn't seem too concerned that Blitzer and the others were nowhere to be found and Christmas just nine days off. He kept mumbling something about the Team-

sters' Union and calling in strike breakers...

The deer must have gotten lost, because their tracks led us in a circle. We ended up right where we started from.

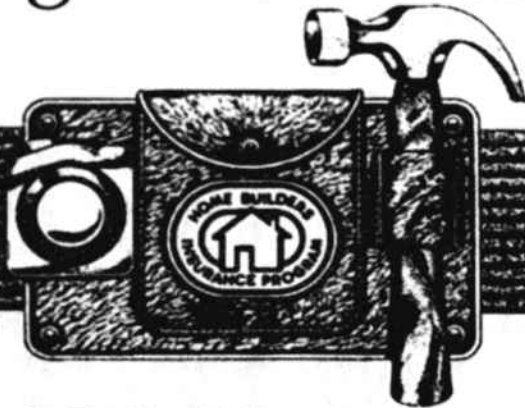
By this time Santa was out of presents and all the cookies had been eaten. And he had decided he could manage just as well without our help. (That Bellamy man at the farm said it scared the farm animals when we were loud, so maybe we scared the reindeer too?)

Santa hopped from the hay wagon and scooted off into the woods, not tired at all. At least he'd rested up.

All of a sudden he spun around, pretty quickly for a older, heavyset kind of guy. We paused, not knowing what to expect. Maybe thinking he'd press his finger against the side of his nose (which was almost as red as Rudolph's), cheerfully roar "Ho, ho, ho!" and disappear. But he didn't. He pulled one of those cute throwaway cameras with flash out of his pocket and took OUR picture. What do you think of that?

I got his picture too. But, darn it, I forget to ask for an autograph. If I set the print out on the table with the cookies and milk Saturday night, maybe he'll sign it.

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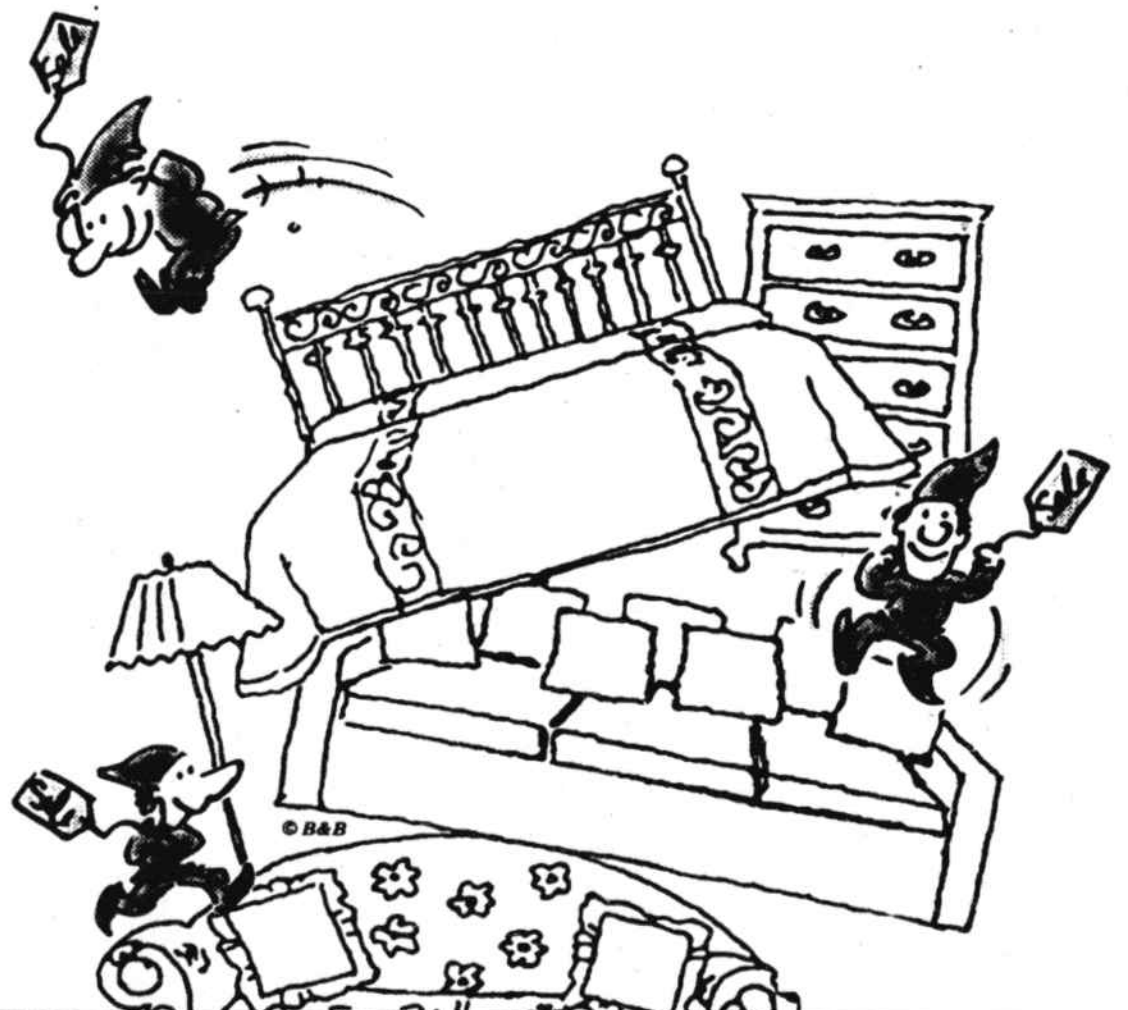
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