

Around Brunswick

Code enforcement to be county's job

SHALLOTTE -- With its small municipal staff overburdened with work, the Town of Shallotte will look to Brunswick County to begin enforcing building codes.

In addition to his duties as code enforcement officer, public works director Albert Hughes is also in charge of the town's water and sewer systems, road system and animal control efforts. That has left him little time to issue building permits and inspect new construction in a rapidly growing municipality.

The town recently turned to Brunswick County for assistance and a contract is being drawn to outline the county's code enforcement responsibilities. The county now provides code enforcement services for Leland, Belville, Navassa, Northwest, Varnamtown and the Southeast Brunswick Sanitary District. Chief county building inspector Delaney Aycock says the six-man county inspections department can handle the extra workload in Shallotte.

Town officials say Shallotte police officers will also be trained to spot code violations while on patrol. Until details of enforcement are worked out, warnings will be given violators.

CES will oversee pesticide collection

BOLIVIA -- Got a shed full of weed killer you haven't been able to Round Up?

Need to stage a Raid on all your old pesticides?

Well, Brunswick County's Cooperative Extension Service will oversee the safe and proper collection and disposal of home and garden hazardous substances Tuesday, March 24, at the Brunswick County Government Center near Bolivia. The collection will begin at 10 a.m. and conclude at 2 p.m.

"We will collect any pesticide, such as insecticides, fungicides and herbicides, that are in original containers and clearly labeled," said county extension director Phillip R. Ricks.

Those who wish to dispose of materials in metal containers, or containers of five gallons or more, are asked to call the county extension office the day of the collection so proper instructions for packaging can be relayed. The county extension office telephone number is 253-2610.

Empty, properly rinsed, plastic pesticide containers will also be accepted on collection day.

Those bringing pesticides to the government center should follow the signs reading "Pesticide Collection" which will be posted that day.

January report of registrar is offered

BOLIVIA -- Brunswick County's register of deeds office collected nearly \$166,000 in the month of

Dove and dog

County's crime-fighting pair makes a good story for national magazine

By Richard Nubel
Municipal Editor

A familiar pair of Brunswick County crime fighters will capture national attention this month with publication of the April edition of *Dog and Kennel* magazine.

Subjects of the magazine's "Dogs at Work" feature are former N. C. Highway Patrol trooper Jerry Dove and his dog Marco, lately both assigned to the Southport Police Department.

While the two are by now familiar presences in Southport and in Brunswick County, they are soon to become known by the nationwide readership of the Greensboro publication.

The page 16 feature story recounts the nearly ten-year partnership of Dove and Marco, begun when Marco was but a ten-month-old pup and Dove still a member of the Highway Patrol.

"Marcus Augustus Caesar -- 'Marco' for short -- is a Belgian Malinois dog," the magazine notes. "Born ten years ago in Holland, he was trained there in obedience and criminal apprehension, then he and four other Malinois were purchased by the Triad K-9 Training Center of Greensboro, North Carolina. This group, which is now defunct, was composed largely of police officers dedicated to the proposition that the state's new drug interdiction program needed well-trained dogs to help accomplish this mission."

But before Marco's mission could begin here in the United States, Dove and dog had to learn to communicate with one another. Because Marco had been taught no English commands, Dove had to take a mini-training course himself in 25 Dutch and German verbs to which Marco



Jerry Dove and Marco have been partners for nearly a decade. Hera (right) is the next generation local K-9 crime fighter.



The April edition of *Dog and Kennel* magazine. The periodical is published six times a year in Greensboro, with national distribution.

would react.

"The most important word in Marco's vocabulary, from a criminal's point of view, is *losch*, which means 'You can let go of that miscreant's arm (leg, hand or other body part) now,'" *Dog and Kennel* notes.

The magazine tells of how Dove's and Marco's relationship continued in Dove's retirement after 27 years with the Highway Patrol.

"(Dove) and Marco were still policemen at heart, so Dove joined the Southport Police Department as a reserve K-9 officer," the magazine says.

Southport is also the scene for a magazine snippet from the careers of Dove and Marco. The piece recounts the story of a night Dove and Marco encountered two burglars inside one of the local schools. Fearing Marco, one of the "preps" gave up immediately. The other decided to run, but was soon trapped inside one of the classrooms.

"Dove ordered him to drop his weapon and come out," the magazine recounted. "No response, so Dove sent Marco into the dark classroom. Suddenly there was a great wailing and gnashing of teeth. When Dove entered the room, there was Marco on one of the desks, hanging on to the burglar's pants leg, while the burglar tried to disappear into the paneled ceiling."

Though the burglar pulled away, he moments later fell through the

See *Dog*, page 8

January, a report from registrar Robert J. Robinson this week indicates.

In the month, \$130,660 in excise taxes was collected.

Additionally, 1,255 deeds and deeds of trust were recorded for \$20,986; 62 plats and maps were recorded for \$1,302; recording of other instruments brought \$6,771.

Thirty-six marriage licenses were issued for \$1,440 and other services of the office generated \$4,757.

Robinson's report says 145 more deeds and deeds of trust were recorded this January than during January, 1997. Twenty-five more

plats were recorded this year.

Expenses for the Brunswick County Register of Deeds office totaled just over \$116,000 for the month, excluding wages, salaries and the cost of benefits. The office generated an excess of revenues over expenses of \$49,711 in the month, Robinson's report says.

Authority to begin billing golf courses

SUNSET BEACH -- Seventeen golf courses in the jurisdiction of South Brunswick Water and Sewer

Authority will get stormwater management bills of nearly \$11,000 each, if authority board members accept director Joe Tombro's realigned finance plan.

Conversely, those who own large tracts of undeveloped land, or farmland, may see a reduction in fees to be paid for development of a \$40-million wastewater treatment plant. Stormwater and wastewater charges are tied as stormwater carries pollutants from failed septic systems to area ground and surface waters.

Authority members agreed to conduct a public hearing on Tombro's new finance plan, but

have not set a date for that hearing. Under terms of the proposal, the golf courses will each get stormwater bills of \$10,552. The fee for undisturbed land will drop from 25 cents per acre to five cents per acre. The fee for land in cultivation would drop from 25 cents to seven cents per acre.

The authority has already collected about \$500,000 in stormwater fees. About \$200,000 more is subject to legal contest.

In other business, authority members said they will form a committee to make peace with municipal officials from the Town of

Calabash who, during the election of November, 1997, pledged to pull out of the sewer project with the authority.

Public hearing on mining permit set

RALEIGH -- Martin Marietta's request to expand its mining permit for operating a borrow pit in Brunswick County will be the subject of a March 25 public hearing.

The hearing is to begin at 7 p.m. at the Brunswick County Government Center.

Charles Gardner, state geologist and director of the Division of Land Resources in the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), said he authorized the public hearing "in response to growing interest in mining in the Brunswick County area."

Andy McCall will be hearing officer. He is a senior field officer for DENR.

Martin Marietta is seeking to modify its existing permit for mining by adding 4.5 acres to its 4.9-acre borrow pit located south of Sunny Point Road. Permit modification requires that the mining operator not do anything that would adversely affect potable groundwater supply, wildlife, fresh water, estuarine or marine fisheries.

The public will be allowed to make oral comments for three minutes and submit written comments as well. Mining officials with the N. C. Division of Land Resources will be on hand to explain mining laws and the permit modification being sought.

Gardner will make a decision on the permit expansion following the public hearing and assessment of written comments. A copy of the mining permit modification application and maps are on file in the DENR Wilmington regional office and in the DENR Land Quality Section in Raleigh. Additional information about the hearing is available from Judith A. Wehner, Land Quality Section, 919-733-4574.

PTA plans Leland carnival next week

LELAND -- North Brunswick High School PTA will sponsor Leland's Spring Carnival March 25-29.

The carnival will take place on the high school campus. Admission will be \$4 for adults and \$3 for students.

The carnival will be open at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and at 1 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

"This is a family event and there will be something for everybody," carnival organizers say.

In addition to rides, games and great food, the carnival will feature a gospel singing competition on Wednesday, variety night on Thursday, battle of the bands on Friday and cheerleading competition on Saturday.

On The Move...

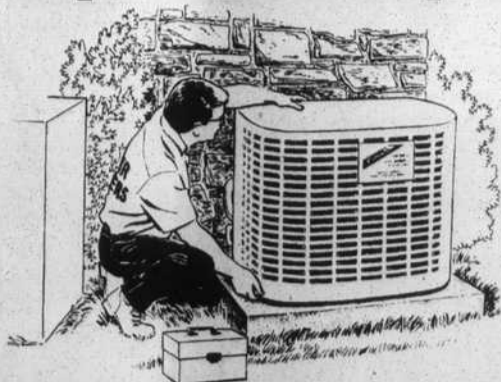
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