

Area Property Owners Plan Easter Meetings

Property owners at two local beaches will gather Easter weekend to discuss various issues of interest affecting their respective communities.

The Holden Beach Property Owners Association will meet at town hall on Saturday, April 2. A board of directors meeting has been scheduled for 10 a.m. with the regular meeting set for 11 a.m.

Bob Buck, executive secretary of the HBPOA, said items tentatively scheduled for discussion include the purchase of vehicle license plates and the relocation of power lines underground.

He said reports should also be heard concerning mainland annexation and the status of the septic tank problem.

The Sunset Beach Taxpayers Association will hold its spring meeting April 2 in the firehouse beginning at 10 a.m.

Board of directors member Minnie Hunt said topics of discussion will include beach access, litter control and the planned highrise bridge.

Although the general membership meeting of the Ocean Isle Beach Property Owners Association will not be held until Memorial Day weekend, a board of directors meeting has also been scheduled for April 2.

The meeting will be held at the home of OIBPOA President Stuart Ingram and will begin at 10 a.m.

17-Year-Olds Can Drive Buses Until End Of Term

An extension granted by the U.S. Department of Labor last week will allow Brunswick County's 17-year-old school bus drivers to continue driving for the remainder of the school year. Currently there are 14 such drivers, most of whom transport high school students.

Under the terms of the extension, Brunswick will be able to use only 17-year-old drivers who will turn 18 by June 15.

Brunswick is not one of the 42 states in the state that have demonstrated problems in hiring adult drivers and which will be allowed to employ 17-year-old drivers who won't turn 18 by that deadline.

With the recent hiring of two more adult drivers, Brunswick County now has employed only 14 drivers who are age 17, according to Bill Turner, special assistant to the superintendent. Four of those will turn age 18 before June 15.

"I think we would have had to do a couple of double runs," said Turner. "But I really think we could have found enough adults if we had decided to bite the bullet and say 'This is what we're going to do.'"

"It would have been close, but we could have done it."

Even with the extension, he added, where adult drivers become available they will replace student drivers—even those who turn 18—in keeping with the policy of the Brunswick County Board of Education. Under that policy, the county has been gradually making the transition to all-adult drivers for three years, in part by encouraging part-

time employees to combine driving with their jobs to gain full-time status and benefits with the school system, and by allowing some full-time employees to modify their work schedules so that they can drive a bus also. It has also increased its pay rate for drivers, offering a local supplement to attract part-time adult employees.

In North and South Carolina, 17-year-olds had been permitted to drive under an exemption to the Fair Labor Standards Act. Earlier this month, the states were notified that the exemption would end April 1 because of violations of its terms—primarily the use of drivers who had moving violations. During January and February, North Carolina, for instance, was found to have violated the agreement 80 times.

One condition of last week's extension is that the state remove all 17-year-olds who have tickets for moving violations or at-fault accidents on their driving records, or who have not passed a physical examination within the last year.

If the extension had not been granted, legislation that would override the Feb. 25 Labor Department decision was ready to go to the U.S. Senate, following passage by the U.S. House earlier this month.

To attract more adult drivers statewide, Gov. Jim Martin has announced that he will seek a \$24 million budget amendment during the June session of the General Assembly to increase the pay rate for school bus drivers.

Planning Board Approves 2 Subdivision Proposals

BY RAHN ADAMS

Despite questions about the property's future ownership, the Brunswick County Planning Board last week approved a preliminary plat proposal for a new subdivision near Shallotte.

The proposed subdivision was one of two approved at the planning board's 30-minute monthly meeting last Wednesday night in Bolivia.

Board members Thomas Dixie, Alan Holden, Shelton Stanley, Michael Schaub and Chris Chappell were present. Chairman Ed Gore and John Barbee were absent.

At its Feb. 24 meeting, the planning board delayed consideration of a preliminary plat proposal for Wildwood Village, located in the Shallotte Township near the site of the U.S. 17 Shallotte bypass.

Owners of the two tracts of property in question were listed as Grady Hardwick and Melvin Kirk Nobles of North Myrtle Beach, S.C., and John H. Mintz and Gloria M. Mintz of Shallotte.

The applicants proposed to create 121 lots with an average size of 80 feet by 150 feet. The Mintz tract contained

53.5 lots, while the other tract contained 67.5 lots.

According to Planning Director John Harvey, the proposal was remanded last month because questions were unanswered concerning the subdivision's ownership; the apparent existence of a separately-owned parcel within the subdivision; and the subdivision's design in relation to the Shallotte bypass.

No representatives of the developers were present at last month's meeting. Surveyor Jan Dale was on hand last Wednesday as their official agent.

Dale cleared up two of the board's questions, explaining that a separate parcel owned by the U.S. Government was "out of the way" and did not affect the subdivision, and that a temporary permit was being obtained from the Department of Transportation to allow work on the subdivision to begin.

However, the question concerning ownership remained, since Harvey had received information that the Mintz tract will be sold to Hardwick and Nobles. Board members were

concerned that action on the preliminary plat would be premature as long as ownership is uncertain.

"We can approve it, or we can let it ride until they get it straightened out," said Stanley.

But on a motion by Schaub, board members unanimously approved the plat proposal on the condition that it be returned to the planning board for another review if the sale is not made.

Other stipulations on the board's approval included the identification of private roads on the plat, with utility and drainage easements shown; creation of another access point between the subdivision's 1.4 mile dead-end street and one of two nearby state roads; and construction of adequate storm drainage.

The other proposed subdivision that was unanimously approved at last Wednesday's meeting was Spring Branch at Lockwood, owned by Channel Side Corporation.

The property is located along the southern boundary of the Lockwood Folly development near the marsh and golf links. Some 55 lots, with a

minimum size of 8,000 square feet, will be created.

In other business, planning board members and County Commissioners Jim Poole and Benny Ludlum were scheduled to meet on Wednesday (March 23) to continue their review of the county's subdivision ordinance.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DADDY!

Douglas R. Baines, Sr.

Love,
D.J.



BRUNSWICK COUNTY SENIOR GAMES

June 3—Smithville Park
June 4—South Brunswick High School

Sponsored By:
BRUNSWICK COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION

Senior Games "Trial Run" Session

March 26, 10:00 AM-3:30 PM, South Brunswick High School

EVENTS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Football Throw •Softball Throw •Basketball Shooting •Billiards—8 Ball 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Shuffleboard •Spincasting •Horseshoes •Croquet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Walk •Golf •Tennis •Bowling
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Senior citizens can register Saturday, March 26, at South Brunswick High School to participate in the Senior Games this June. Drinks will be furnished to every participant. Each person must bring a bag lunch.

Senior Games "Training" Sessions

March 29, 1:30-4:00 PM, Shallotte Park

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Billiards—8 Ball •Softball Throw 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Croquet •Tennis
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March 31, 1:30-4:00 PM, Leland Park

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Shuffleboard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Spincasting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Horseshoes
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Senior
Citizen
Games
June
3&4

Senior Citizens who win gold, silver or bronze medals during our games in June can go the State Games. State medal winners move on to St. Louis in June, 1989.

Senior
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