

Can't Catch Me!

This unusually-marked fox squirrei confounded several Shallotte residents living near the intersection of U.S. 17 and Holden Beach Road after it was spotted in a tree outside Brightie Holden's house recently. According to local wildlife enforcement officer Fred Taylor, fox squirrels with black and white markings are fairly rare in Brunswick County. Most fox squirrels are simply

County Awards Bids For Sea Pines Water Project

BY RAHN ADAMS

Residents in the Sea Pines subdivision near Long Beach are one step closer to county water service, as Brunswick County Commissioners this week awarded contracts to two companies for the county's fourth special assessment district (SAD) project.

At the recommendation of the Brunswick County Utility Operations Board, commissioners Monday night unanimously accepted bids totaling \$161,410 for SAD 4, which mainly consists of Sea Pines, located on Long Beach Road.

Separate bids for materials and installation were received April 26. Three companies bid on materials, while six firms bid on installation.

Commissioners Monday awarded the materials contract to Zeigler Construction Company of Florence, S.C., which was the second lowest bidder at \$99,904.90. The low bid of \$96,454.68 from Pump and Lighting Company of Wilmington was dis qualified after it was discovered that an unauthorized representative of the firm had made the bid, according to UOB Chairman William English.

Low bidder All Span Building Systems Inc. of Wilmington received the installation contract, with its bid of \$61,505.40. The second lowest bid was \$72,161.25 by Carmichael Construction Company of Southport.

After the contracts are signed, a date will be set by the UOB and commissioners for the companies to begin work on the water project.

Projects Finished

Also at Monday's meeting, English informed commissioners that two county water projects have been completed: water line extensions in the area between Brick Landing Plantation and Bent Tree Plantation (SAD 2), and along Sabbath Home and Stone Chimney Roads to the Lockwood Folly subdivision and golf

English said residents in SAD 2 will

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be able to tap on to the county water system beginning next week, about a month ahead of schedule. Contractor Mark H. Johnson Inc. of Fremont had until June to finish the project. Installation began in early January.

The UOB chairman also brought commissioners up to date on completion of the Lockwood Folly project-one in which the county and the subdivision developer, Channel Side Corporation, have agreed to split the cost of installing the 12-inch water trunk main.

English said the county's engineering firm, Lewis and Associates, has given final approval of the project, and the construction contractor has been paid in full. The UOB and county water department will be working with Channel Side to install a master meter and sign on the company as a wholesale water customer after the company provides a copy of its state certification as a public utility with the county.

Changes Approved

Commissioners Monday also ap-proved several change orders for contracts involving SAD 3 and the Lockwood Folly water line, as recommended by the UOB. The change orders totaled \$1,472.43 for materials and \$4,000 for installation in SAD 3, with the changes covered by the project's \$7,000 contingency account. The original contract prices for the project were \$60,040.39 for materials and \$47,026.50 for installa-

Also, commissioners okaved a \$548.24 increase in the \$85,753.38 contract for the Lockwood Folly project. The increase was due to additional materials that were used in the in-

At last Wednesday's UOB meeting, the utility board sent two proposed change orders for increases in SADs 1 and 2 back to Lewis and Associates for further negotiations with the con-



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Shallotte Man Killed In Weekend Car Crash

juries he received when his car struck a bridge and overturned into a stream in CawCaw Swamp.

The victim was John Mac Ford Jr., 40. of Shallotte. Assistant Coroner Cleo McCranie said Ford's neck was fractured in the crash. He was pronounced dead on the scene.

According to Highway Patrol spokesperson Ruby Oakley, Brunswick County's fourth traffic fatality of the year occurred Friday at 9 p.m. on No. 5 School Road (S.R. 1305), 14 miles south of Shallotte.

Ford's 1976 Buick ran off the right side of the road and hit a bridge located 11/2 miles south of Pea Landing Road. McCranie said the car overturned into about two feet of water after it struck the bridge abutment and tore away about 20 feet of

Authorities have no clue as to why the accident occurred. Both Mc-Cranie and Ms. Oakley said there was no evidence of alcohol use.

'There was no indication as to what would have caused him to run off the road," McCranie said, adding

that Ford was alone in the vehicle and that there apparently were no witnesses to the accident.

A report filed by Trooper J.V. Dove indicated that Ford was exceeding a safe speed and driving recklessly

prior to the mishap, Ms. Oakley said. Damage to the car was estimated at \$1,400. The bridge sustained an estimated \$2,000 in damage.

A Southport woman suffered minor injuries in a two-vehicle collision last Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the in-tersection of U.S. 17 and N.C. 211 near Supply.

According to Ms. Oakley, a 1981 Dodge driven by Edmond Joseph Walker, 42, of Southport, pulled onto U.S. 17 into the path of a 1969 GMC pickup truck driven by Herman Parker Spencer, 50, of Shallotte.

Neither driver was injured. However, a passenger in the Walker auto-Linda Wilson, 39, of Southport-complained of injuries and was taken by rescue squad ambulance to The Brunswick Hospital near Supply.

Damages were estimated at \$500 to the Spencer truck and \$3,000 to the Walker car.

Trooper B.C. Jones charged Walker with failing to yield the right-

No injuries were reported in two separate single-vehicle wrecks that

occurred Saturday. Ms. Oakley said the first accident happened Saturday at 3:30 a.m., nine-tenths of a mile north of Ocean Isle Beach on Gause Landing Road, when Leesa Dawn Woodson, 27, of Ocean Isle Beach, lost control of her 1987 Chevrolet pickup, skidded off the road and struck two trees.

Damage to her truck was estimated at \$4,000. Ms. Woodson, who escaped injury, was charged with careless and reckless driving by Trooper Gerald Williams.

The other wreck occurred Saturday at 8:30 p.m., 2.8 miles south of Bolivia on Randolphville Road. Ms. Oakley said a 1979 Mercury driven by Jeffrey Lee Williams, 28, of Bolivia, ran off the road and struck a house owned by Robert Lee Smith.

Damages were estimated at \$5,000 to the house and \$1,200 to the car. No injuries were reported in the wreck. Trooper Dove charged Williams with driving while impaired.

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