

## County Patrol Car Damaged In Weekend Wreck Near Ash

A Brunswick County Sheriff's Department deputy wrecked his county cruiser early Sunday morning near Ash while attempting to rush a fellow lawman to the hospital.

According to a sheriff's department report filed by Deputy Kevin Holden, the accident occurred Sunday around 2:30 a.m., at the intersection of Exum Road and N.C. 130. Holden, who was the driver, had been dispatched to the Exum Road area to investigate a reported traffic accident.

After units from the sheriff's department and Shallotte Police were unable to locate a mishap, Shallotte Police Officer William Roy Kohler contacted Holden by radio and asked to meet him "in a hurry" at the intersection of Exum and Mill Branch Roads, Holden said.

Holden met Kohler and began transporting him in the county car to The Brunswick Hospital near Supply after Kohler complained of numbness in his left arm and chest pains. Due to poor visibility from heavy fog, Holden was unable to stop at the N.C. 130 intersection and skidded across the highway into a wooded area, he said. The deputy later discovered that the stop sign on Exum Road had been knocked down prior to his accident.

Holden and Kohler were not hurt in

the mishap. Highway Patrol Trooper R.V. West arrived on the accident scene and transported Kohler to the hospital, Holden said. The policeman apparently was checked and released, because he was back on duty Monday night, according to a spokesperson at Shallotte Town Hall.

Chief Deputy John Marlow said Monday that damages to Holden's patrol car were estimated at less than \$500. No charges were filed against Holden in connection with the wreck, Marlow said.

In another weekend accident, a Southport man was hurt when his motorcycle crashed near Bolivia. According to Highway Patrol spokesperson Ruby Oakley, the wreck happened Saturday at noon on Midway Road.

The 1989 Yamaha motorcycle driven by Kelvin Leon Jackson, 28, was traveling over 100 mph when it ran off the right side of the road and struck an embankment, Ms. Oakley said.

She added that Jackson suffered incapacitating injuries and was taken by ambulance to The Brunswick Hospital. Damage to the motorcycle was estimated at \$6,000.

Trooper B.L. Wilkes charged Jackson with speeding and driving without an operator's license.



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## BEMC Names Youth Tour Delegates

Two Brunswick County high school juniors are among four area youths selected to participate in the 1989 Rural Electric Youth Tour to Washington, D.C., June 17-23. A third has been named alternate.

The four won an essay contest sponsored by Brunswick Electric Membership Corp. for students in Brunswick and Columbus counties. They are eligible now to compete for a \$1,000 scholarship.

Local winners are Andrea Eden Phillips of North Brunswick High School, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James L. Phillips of Leland; and Malissa Hewett of West Brunswick High School, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Freddie Arthur Hewett of Supply.

Andre' Stanley of West Brunswick High School is one of two alternates

named. He is the son of Linward and Logene Stanley of Shallotte.

In Washington, D.C., they will join approximately 1,000 other delegates. They will take part in seminars on government, rural electrification and cooperatives, meet with congressional delegations and sightsee.

On Rural Electric Youth Day, students will hear speeches by government and rural electric officials, compete in an "Energy Battle," and help select representatives to the Youth Consulting Board to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association.

North Carolina delegates will also run their own "soda pop co-op," a real-life experience that demonstrates how a cooperative operates.

## Civil Suits Filed Against ALE Agents, Long Beach PD

Lawsuits have been filed in Brunswick County Superior Civil Court against N.C. Alcohol Law Enforcement agents and Long Beach Police officers in connection with separate incidents last year near Shallotte and in Long Beach.

In a pair of suits filed March 9, plaintiffs Adolph Garfield Holmes Sr., and his son, Leroy Holmes, claim that ALE agents William Thomas Parker III, Billy R. Nichols and Alton L. Baker unlawfully entered the elder Holmes' property and assaulted the plaintiffs during an ALE raid last March.

Criminal court documents indicate the plaintiffs were taken into custody March 12 at an establishment called The Joint on Airport Road near Shallotte. According to the civil suit, ABC violations and resisting arrest charges lodged against the father and son were all eventually dismissed in court.

Both lawsuits ask for jury trials and at least \$10,000 in both compensatory and punitive damages for each plaintiff.

A separate pair of lawsuits were filed March 15 by Long Beach

residents John St. George Gorman and Aaron Larkins against Long Beach Police officers Danny L. Laughren, William Sisk, Chief W.A. Workman, Town Manager Gary Britt and the Town of Long Beach.

According to the complaint, the lawsuit stems from an Aug. 6, 1989, incident in which Officers Laughren and Sisk forcibly arrested the plaintiffs at the Long Beach residence of Larkins' mother-in-law. The officers had been dispatched to the home at the request of Larkins' wife.

The suit charges that the two officers used excessive force in making the arrests, and names Workman and Britt in their supervisory capacities. In the incident, Larkins was struck by a flashlight and immobilized with an electric "stun gun;" Gorman was hit with the flashlight, requiring stitches in his forehead, the complaint says.

Both suits also request jury trials, and ask for \$10,000 in both compensatory and punitive damages for each plaintiff.

The plaintiffs in both cases are represented by Shallotte attorney Davey Stanley.

## Ocean Isle Receives Bids For Sidewalks, ABC Store

Ocean Isle Beach received bids last week for two projects town officials hope to complete before the tourist season gets into full swing.

Mayor Betty Williamson will negotiate with two low bidders for sidewalk extension, but the town will have to advertise a second time for bids for construction of a new ABC store, said Town Clerk Alberta Tatum.

The town opened bids of \$16,250 each from two firms for the sidewalk construction last Thursday. Low bidders were J.C. Williams Construction of Ocean Isle Beach and Ronnie McCray of Thomasboro.

However, the bid from Williams was not itemized as was required in the bid specifications, said Ms. Tatum.

She said the mayor will negotiate with the low bidders to determine which has the lowest labor costs. The town plans to purchase the concrete and only needs to hire a contractor for actual construction work, she said.

Town commissioners plan to extend the sidewalk along West First

Street from the the fishing pier to Duneside Drive. The sidewalk will be five feet wide and approximately 3,868 feet long.

Meanwhile, the town only received two bids for construction of a new ABC store and will advertise again before opening all bids on Thursday, April 6, at 9 a.m.

Since the project will cost more than \$50,000, the town was required to have at least three bids from which to choose on the first opening, said the town clerk. The town will be able to choose from whatever bids it receives at next week's bid opening.

Plans call for construction of an 80-foot by 42-foot building on a commercial lot between the existing store and Sharky's Pizza and Subs. The actual store will cover approximately 1,290 square feet, while the stock room will be slightly larger.

The new store will be self-service, similar to those in Shallotte and Calabash, and the existing store will initially be used for storage space. Town commissioners hope to have the new store completed and opened before June 1.

## Ocean Isle POA Plans Spring Beautification

The Ocean Isle Beach Property Owners Association will resume beautification efforts along the mainland approach to the high-rise bridge where it left off last year.

POA directors decided Saturday to adorn the west side of the approach to the Odell Williamson Bridge this spring with hydrangea, hibiscus, canna lilies, junipers and other flowering plants. The Plant-A-Round will be held Saturday, May 27, according to POA Treasurer Hayden O'Neil.

At the same time, members of the association may purchase plants for their own yards. Those interested in ordering should contact Gladys Goldsmith, beautification committee chairperson, at 579-7755.

Last year, the property owners association helped beautify the east side of the approach to the bridge.

Project funds for this year's effort will be drawn from the POA balance of \$15,856, said O'Neil.

With the exception of making plans for the spring beautification effort,

O'Neil said the Easter weekend directors' meeting was uneventful.

POA President Stuart Ingram said, "It was really just about as routine as they get."

Leaders of the association did learn that membership is at an all-time high. O'Neil said there were 642 members as of last Thursday and that the goal for the year is 700 members.

To encourage more landowners to join, he said directors decided to mail the association newsletter to all property owners and not just members.

O'Neil said the board of directors also went on record as supporting the Ocean Isle Museum Foundation, Inc., which has proposed building a nature center on the island and will actively begin seeking donations later this year.

Also, he said an emergency rescue boat donated to the town is waiting to be outfitted with a motor. It should be operational before the tourist season hits full stride.

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