



AN OCEAN SUNFISH that washed ashore Friday at Holden Beach measured 78 inches in length, according to N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries biologist Bob Hodges (left) and Marine Fisheries enforcement officer Gary McIntyre (right). STAFF PHOTO BY SUSAN USHER

Stranded Fish Kept Onlookers Guessing

BY SUSAN USHER

A dead ocean sunfish *mola mola* that washed ashore at Holden Beach Friday morning offered a rare sight for beachgoers.

The fish washed onto the strand in the 900 block of Ocean Boulevard West, drawing a crowd of curious onlookers who attempted to guess its identity while awaiting the arrival of a state biologist.

One onlooker guessed well. Biology teacher Scott Conkwright of Abilene, Va., said he had spotted the fish bobbing in the surf while jogging earlier that morning and looked it up in a field guide. He had guessed it was a type of ocean sunfish, but hadn't narrowed it down

specifically to *mola mola*, Conkwright said, adding, "I thought it was a sharp-tail."

Other viewers thought at first the creature might be a manatee or turtle, said Carl Pritchard, a part-time resident and homeowner from Nashville, Tenn., who was videotaping the episode.

The ocean sunfish *mola mola* is found nearly worldwide, but predominantly from Florida to South America, indicated a Peterson's *Field Guide* consulted by N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries biologist Bob Hodges. Hodges came from Wrightsville Beach to confirm the identity of the species, measure it and photograph it for division records.

"I have a set of large scales in the back of my car but nothing that would handle this," he said. "I had no idea of what to expect."

This was the first ocean sunfish either Hodges or DMF enforcement officer Gary McIntyre had seen. According to the field guide, records of the rarely-sighted fish are based mainly on sick or distressed specimens.

An ocean sunfish can grow up to 10 feet long and 11 feet high and weigh up to 4,400 pounds. By those standards, said Hodges, Friday's find was "just a baby."

Holden Beach Policeman Gary Dancy said town employees would bury the dead fish not far from where it washed ashore.

Rabies Clinics Set Saturday

Fido and Puff can have their rabies shots updated at field clinics sponsored Saturday by the Brunswick County Health Department and local veterinarians.

State law requires that all dogs and cats four months of age and older be vaccinated against rabies.

In addition to the rabies vaccinations, distemper and parvo shots also will be available at the clinics. Cost for all shots is \$5 each.

The clinic schedule for Saturday is as follows:

Civictown Crossroads, 1 p.m.-1:30 p.m.; Bill's Quick Stop, Boone's Neck, 1:45 p.m.-2:30 p.m.; Shallotte Lions Park, 2:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m.; Ocean Isle Airport, 3:30 p.m.-4 p.m.;

Also, Carter's Store, Sunset Harbor, 1 p.m.-1:15 p.m.; Boiling Spring Lakes Town Hall, 1:40 p.m.-2:30 p.m.; Yaupon Beach Town Hall, 3 p.m.-3:30 p.m.; and Long Beach Town Hall, 3:45 p.m.-4:15 p.m.;

And, Maco Truck Stop, N.C. 87, 1 p.m.-1:30 p.m.; Ye Olde Country Store, Mt. Misery and Cedar Hill Roads, 1:45 p.m.-2:30 p.m.; Wilson's, Leland, 2:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m.; and Henry's Service Center, N.C. 133 near Davis Forest, 3:30 p.m.-3:45 p.m.

More information is available from the Brunswick County Animal Control office, 754-8204, 457-5281 or 763-1312.

Varnamtown Handles Routine Business

Varnamtown Aldermen handled only routine business at their monthly meeting last Thursday, postponing a decision on what to do about a petition seeking unincorporation of the town.

"It wasn't very exciting," Town Clerk Paul Vealey said of the meeting at Gospel Center Baptist Church, which was uneventful compared to the town's March 15 meeting. At that earlier meeting the church was packed with people looking for reasons behind a move to unincorporate Varnamtown. "We just did the routine business," he said.

The full town board was present for the 30-minute meeting, said Vealey. Officials heard various committee reports and received a request from Tri-Beach Volunteer Fire Department to be included in next fiscal year's budget.

Aldermen took no action on the request, but it will be considered. Vealey said the town finance committee is expected to meet next week to start work on the budget for

fiscal year 1990-91. The budget must be adopted by June 30 for the fiscal year that starts July 1.

Aldermen Roger Robinson and John David Dawson, who make up the town board's land and building committee, were asked last week to get prices for clearing the lot on Varnamtown Road that the town recently purchased, said Vealey.

The town clerk said three fire department representatives were the only members of the public to attend the meeting. Approximately 90 people were at the church last month when town officials and State Rep. David Redwine talked with a group of petitioners seeking unincorporation of the town that incorporated only 19 months ago.

Vealey said aldermen briefly discussed the petition last week but reached no consensus on what to do about it. He said the issue could come up again at the next town meeting, scheduled for Thursday, May 17 at 7:30 p.m. in Dixon Chapel United Methodist Church.

Legal Notices

ESTATE NOTICE

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of James Arnold Miller, deceased, late of Brunswick County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 19th day of October, 1990, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 10th day of April, 1990.

Dorothy Jean Miller, Executrix of the Estate of James Arnold Miller Rt. 9, Box 75, Brierwood Estates Shallotte, NC 28459 May 10 pd.

ESTATE NOTICE

The undersigned, having qualified as Executrix of the Estate of Charlie Roy Radford, late of Brunswick County, this is to notify all persons having claims against said estate to present them to the undersigned on or before the 12th day of October, 1990, or this notice will be pleaded in bar of recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate payment to the undersigned. This the 5th day of April, 1990.

Betty L. Phares, Executrix of the Estate of Charlie Roy Radford 10 Golfview Court Calabash, NC 28459 May 3 pd.

NOTICE OF FILING OF APPLICATION FOR CAMA MINOR DEVELOPMENT PERMIT

Pursuant to NCGS 113A-119(b), Brunswick County, a locality authorized to issue CAMA permits in Areas of Environmental Concern, hereby gives NOTICE that on April 19, 1990, the Town of Sunset Beach applied for a CAMA permit to construct a marl parking area west of the pier parking lot at Block 29B, Lot 4. The application may be inspected at the address below. Public comments received by May 11, 1990, will be considered. Later comments will be accepted and considered up to the time of permit decision. Project modifications may occur based on further review and comments. Notice of the permit decision in this matter will be provided upon written request.

T. Barrett, Acting CAMA Local Permit Officer for Brunswick County Division of Coastal Management 7225 Wrightsville Avenue Wilmington, NC 28403 (919) 256-4161 Apr. 26

Legal Notices

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA IN THE GENERAL COURT OF JUSTICE SUPERIOR COURT DIVISION COUNTY OF BRUNSWICK BEFORE THE CLERK 88 SP 245

PRESSIE GAUSE, by and his guardian ad litem, JOHN HENRY GAUSE vs. EMMA ILENE HANKINS ET AL. NOTICE OF RESALE Pursuant to an order of resale entered in this matter, the undersigned Commissioners will offer for sale at 10:00 a.m. on the 7th day of May, 1990, at the Brunswick County Courthouse, the following described property:

BEGINNING on a poplar in the edge of Jennies Branch and runs south 79 degrees west about 100 poles to a stake on the hill north of said branch; thence with W. L. Pigott's line north 7 degrees west about 30 poles to a stake, corner of Lot No. 2; thence north 79 degrees east to the eastward line; thence south 5 degrees west to the BEGINNING.

This property was recently surveyed by Bobby M. Long, and contained 17.76 acres. Maps are available at Powell, Gore & Payne.

The last and highest bidder will be required to make a 10% deposit of the bid in cash or bank check, and the sale will remain open for ten days after report of the sale for upset bids.

William A. Powell and Douglas Baxley, Co-Commissioners Post Office Box 844 Shallotte, NC 28459 (919)754-4389 May 3

CAMA PERMIT NOTICE

Pursuant to NCGS 113A-119(b), the municipality of Ocean Isle Beach, a locality authorized to issue CAMA permits in the areas of environmental concern, hereby gives NOTICE that on April 17, 1990, applicant Richard M. Warren, applied for a CAMA minor development permit to construct a single-family dwelling at Lot 5, Block J, Section D, 33 Duneside Drive.

The application may be inspected at the below address. Public comments received by May 3, 1990, will be considered. Later comments will be accepted and considered up to the time of permit decision. Project modifications may occur based on further review and comments. Notice of the permit decision in this matter will be provided upon written request.

T. D. Roberson Local CAMA Permit Officer 3 West 3rd Street Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28459 (919)579-2166 Apr. 26

Turtle Watch Begins In May

The Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department is looking for help in its plans to start watching turtles next month.

Specifically, it will be recruiting volunteers to help monitor the laying and hatching of loggerhead turtle eggs on local beaches, according to Tina Pritchard, special projects coordinator.

Two meetings next week are aimed at introducing the program to potential helpers. The first session will be Wednesday, May 2, at 7 p.m. at the Long Beach Recreation Center. The second meeting will be Thursday, May 3, at 7 p.m. at Lockwood Folly Community Building, Stanbury Road, Supply.

Loggerheads, an endangered species of sea turtle, make their way

to area beaches each spring to lay their eggs. In past years, volunteers in several local communities, including the towns of Holden, Caswell and Long beaches and the Village of Bald Head, have marked nests, moved nests endangered by incoming tides, monitored hatching, and even helped tiny hatchling turtles find their way from nest to ocean.

The young turtles can be trapped in tire indentations on the strand and disoriented by residential lights along the oceanfront. They are easy marks for gulls and other coastal predators.

Loggerheads typically lay eggs from May through August, with hatching occurring from July through October.

KEEP JUDGE WALL

Paid for by the Committee to keep Judge Wall, Paula H. Greene, Treasurer

PUBLIC MEETING

There will be a public meeting Wednesday, May 2, at 11:00 a.m. at the Holden Beach Town Hall to discuss proposed revisions and amendments to the FEMA flood insurance maps of the Town of Holden Beach.

The public is invited to attend and offer comments.

Dwight E. Carroll Building & Code Enforcement

NOTICE

The Sunset Beach Town Council will hold a joint public hearing with the Sunset Beach Planning Board/Board of Adjustments on Monday, May 7, 1990, at 7:30 p.m. at the town hall of Sunset Beach, N.C.

Purpose: A proposed amendment to the zoning establishing an MH-2 mobile home residential district.

A proposed rezoning of Bonaparte's Retreat, Section F from MH-1 to MH-2.

Linda Fluegel, Administrator

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Brunswick County Board of Equalization and Review will convene Tuesday, May 1, 1990, at 10:00 a.m., in the Commissioners' chambers in the Government Complex in Bolivia.

The Board will adjourn on May 29, 1990 at 12:00 noon.

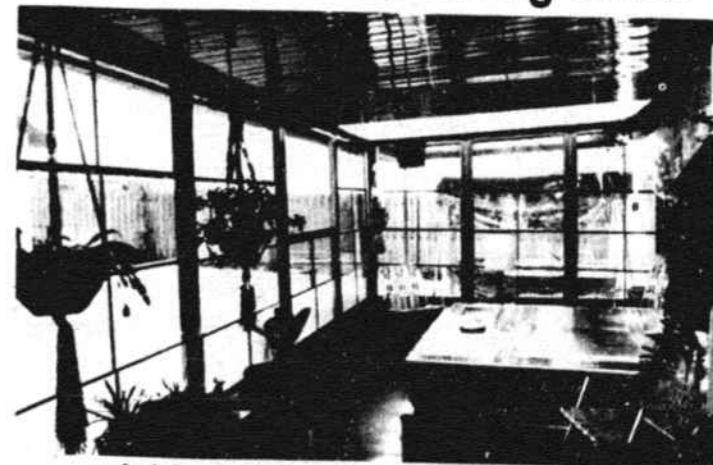
If a taxpayer wishes to file an appeal or schedule an appointment, please contact the Tax Assessor's office in Bolivia or call 253-4341.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF SHALLOTTE MAY 2, 1990

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 143-128(C) of the North Carolina General Statutes, that a public hearing will be held on May 2, 1990, at 7:30 P.M. at the Town Hall to receive public input and comments on a verifiable percentage goal for participation by minority business in the awarding of building construction contracts. Citizens are invited to make written or oral comments.

Mary Etta Hewett, Town Clerk Town of Shallotte

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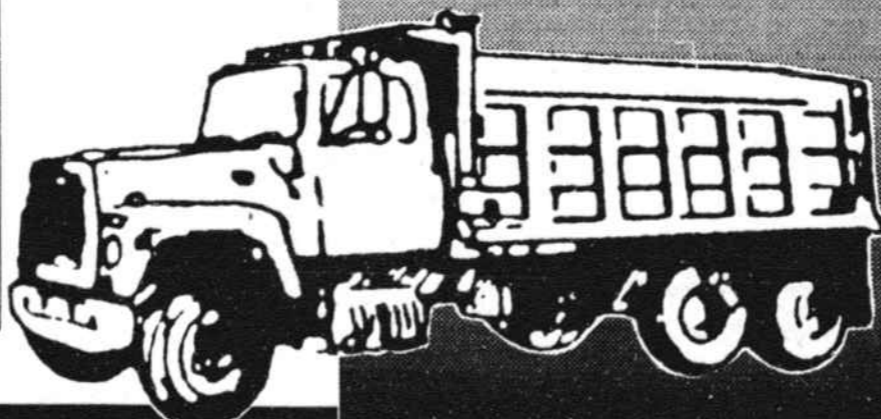
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