



JOANNE RABBITT of Supply is one of three bird breeders who is helping to care for the more than 280 birds seized during the raid last week.

STAFF PHOTO BY TERRY POPE

Belville Man Faces Additional Charges

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to get the dog a larger place to stay. He was also told to get medical treatment for the dog, the report states.

A complaint filed in November 1989 by someone who purchased a puppy from Boney alleges the animal had not been wormed or had any shots.

"The dog had a foul odor of animal waste, its hair was stained with animal waste and was infected with ear mites," the report alleges.

On June 5, 1990, another complainant told animal control workers that she went to the Boney establishment to purchase a Pekingese and found the animals kept in "extremely small cages. There were flies everywhere and the animals were kept in a downstairs (sic) basement. She also observed various breeds of birds," Ms. Babson reported.

In a complaint dated April 13, 1991, a woman reported she obtained Boney's name and number from a bird breeder and made an appointment to see him to buy a bird. The woman's son and daughter-in-law accompanied her to the Boney residence where they reported seeing a large number of birds.

"Most contained body lice, some were dead and one cage had two birds that were fighting," the report alleges. "Mr. Boney removed the injured bird and put in the feed dish of another bird cage with other birds."

The woman told animal control officers that she went into another room that contained more birds. The room had an odor of animal waste with "several small cages containing animals packed in without enough room for comfort," Ms. Babson's report alleges.

Her report notes: "The animals had matted fur with animal waste in the bottom of the cages. All animals appeared to be sick. Under the pens was a metal pan with five gallon buckets with animal waste running over from the buckets. The room was very dark with the exception of a dim light that the owner could turn on when in the room. There did not seem to be any ventilation."

Animal control workers decided to obtain a search warrant after another complaint was filed on April 20. What resulted was perhaps the

largest animal seizure in Brunswick County Animal Control history.

"It's the first that I've ever been in on of this size," said Ms. Babson, "and I've been here over 11 years."

County employees converted a livestock holding area into two rooms to house the more than 200 birds.

"We're getting calls from all across the state," said Dee Lee, Brunswick County Animal Control worker. "It overwhelms me to know that there are that many people who are concerned."

Trimming and bathing one Pekingese took about two hours, Ms. Lee said.

"Our animal control department here is no stronger than the people will let it be," said Ganey. "People need to support these animal control people."

Ms. Babson said Tuesday that volunteers are helping the shelter care for the influx of animals, which must be kept pending the outcome of the District Court trial.

"If the court turns them over to us, then we hope to place them in homes," she said. "Right now, we're in need of fresh fruit and vegetables for the birds."

On Monday, health department officials turned their focus to the conditions inside the Belville motel.

Crowder said the health department will be working with the buildings inspection department to examine for possible health hazards, sewage problems and building code violations at the motel.

"To this point, we haven't seen any immediate threat to anyone's health," Crowder said, "but we're not done. We're still going to be looking at the situation."

Motels are inspected on surprise visits by health inspectors, Crowder said. Part of the Town and Country Motel is operated as a motel while other parts are operated as apartments, rented on a monthly basis.

"We can't do anything about the apartments," he added. "It would be like going into someone's home. We're not allowed to do that."

If violations are found, the owner has a period to bring the building into compliance, Crowder said.

Kennels are not inspected by county health departments, he added. Operators must register with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to become a certified kennel.

Machine Company Planning To Set Up Shop In Leland

BY TERRY POPE

A New York company that makes airplane parts plans to expand its operations by landing a manufacturing plant near Leland.

HMS Machine Works plans to purchase the old Present Industrial Supply Co. building on Mt. Misery Road in the Phoenix community, said Thomas Monks, director of the Brunswick County Resources Development Commission office.

"I think it's really good news," Monks said Tuesday. "It's a clean operation. You don't have the environmental impacts that a lot of in-

dustries have."

Plus, the company plans to employ around 30 people initially and expand to approximately 150 employees within two years, he said.

"The operation that was in that building was only employing around 20 people," said Monks.

The Present building has been on the market for about six months. Present manufactured industrial valves and fittings.

HMS plans to seek an estimated \$1.5 million in Industrial Revenue Bonds to help finance capital improvements on the site, Monks said.

The Brunswick County Resources Development Commission Advisory Board was to meet Wednesday, May 1, at 6:30 p.m., at the RDC office in Bolivia to discuss the company's plans to seek the bonds. HMS is seeking the board's endorsement so that it can apply for the funding.

Purchasers of the bonds receive tax exempt status on interest earned. The bonds are awarded by the state through a non-binding agreement with county industrial development offices to help with the financing of new or expanding industries.

DA SAYS HE MAY NOT HAVE TO PROSECUTE

Democrats Tardy With Financial Reports

BY DOUG RUTTER

The immediate past chairman of the Brunswick County Democratic Party says financial reports that were due at the state elections office in October and January probably will be filed this week.

Brunswick County's Democratic Party Executive Committee is subject to prosecution for its failure to file a pair of reports showing income and expenses over the last eight months of 1990, according to the N.C. Board of Elections.

Former party chairman Glen Peterson said last week Democratic officials inadvertently neglected to file the financial disclosure statements on time.

"Those reports are going to be filed very imminently," Peterson said. "It was just a matter of having too much to do and not enough time to do it."

The executive committee did not file two of the three financial reports for 1990, said Yvonne Southerland, supervisor of the campaign reporting office at the state Board of Elections.

One of the reports was due Oct. 29, 1990, and the other was due Jan. 25. The reports cover financial activity of the organization for the pe-



"It was just a matter of having too much to do and not enough time to do it."

—Glen Peterson, former chairman Brunswick County Democratic Party

riod April 22 through Dec. 31, 1990.

Ms. Southerland said the state could fine the executive committee \$100 for each late report. She said the state sent two notices to the committee for each report that wasn't filed.

Early last month, Ms. Southerland said the state elections office sent a notice to the local district attorney asking him to prosecute the executive committee.

District Attorney Rex Gore said last week he hasn't started prosecuting the committee. He said state law requires his office to begin prosecuting within 45 days of receiving notice from the board of elections.

Gore said his office received the state notice April 8, meaning the 45

days runs out May 23. The Democratic district attorney said he's not sure if he would have to prosecute if the reports are filed before the time expires.

"It may be that the party will file the needed reports and that would end my role in it," Gore said.

State law requires political parties, political action committees and some candidates to file financial reports with the Board of Elections.

Political parties must file three reports in even-numbered years when county, state and federal officials are elected. The state requires only one financial report in other years.

In even years, financial reports are due 10 days before the primary and general elections. An annual re-

port must be turned in by late January of the following year.

Ms. Southerland said the Brunswick County Democratic Party was one of 21 political parties, committees or candidates that failed to file one or more financial reports for 1990 and were reported to local district attorneys.

In most cases, she said political groups fail to file reports with the state because leaders change every year and newcomers don't know what the law requires.

"I feel certain that the reason a lot of the political committees fall out of compliance is a simple failure of passing the report from one treasurer to the next or one chairman to the next," Ms. Southerland said.

The one financial report the executive committee did file last year showed income of \$39 and expenses of \$5 for the period Jan. 1 through April 21. The committee reported income of \$1,500 and expenses of \$467 in 1989.

Ms. Southerland said officials are considering several changes in the state's campaign reporting law, including increasing the maximum penalty for failing to file reports from \$100 to \$1,000.

Hearing Reveals Wide Split On Subdivision Ordinance

(Continued From Page 2-A)

"Every summer it's fine," Miller said, "but when school starts we hear that the school bus is not coming down our road anymore. The road's too rough. We still have to get these children to school."

DOT requirements state that any road less than .2 mile in a subdivision can be paved to a width of not less than 18 feet. Roads longer must be paved to a width of not less than 24 feet. Subdivision plats would have to map 60 feet for state road right of ways.

Delane Stanley said he took a tape measure and examined Stone Chimney Road and Stanley Road near Holden Beach prior to the hearing.

He said both roads are paved to a width of only 20 feet. The roads were constructed before DOT

adopted its current standards.

"The only 24-foot roads in this county are major thoroughfares," Stanley asserted.

He asked that a committee be formed among planning board members and local residents and developers to further examine the draft.

"What we are concerned about tonight is another level of bureaucracy," said Walters.

The Sea Trail developer said the ordinance would require additional costs on the part of the developer, costs that would have to be passed on to the consumer. "If costs escalate too high," Walters warned, "it will shut down development in Brunswick County."

Fred Parker, developer of Coastal Retreat, said he is opposed to a section that requires 75 percent of lots in a subdivision be suitable for sew-

er systems or that the plat cannot be recorded.

Surveyor Bobby Long added that the ordinance would be more restrictive than ones for neighboring New Hanover County and Horry County, S.C.

Long said it's difficult to see why the county would want to restrict developments in rural areas, thus driving the cost of lots beyond the affordable range for customers.

The South Brunswick Islands Home Builders Association presented its suggestions in writing, but President Randy Hurst added, "We feel that 60 feet seems to be excessive for residential streets."

"If it ain't broke, we don't need to fix it," said Sunset Beach developer and home builder Tom Pope. "Economics, the price of land, will govern its use."

Pope stated that copies of the ordinance were never sent to the local board of Realtors or homebuilder associations, but Planning Director John Harvey disagreed.

Harvey was asked by Board of Commissioners Chairman Kelly Holden to clarify how the planning department has asked for help in preparing the document.

"Four times, in the 1980s, I wrote for help in putting together this subdivision ordinance," Harvey said.

Supply businessman Louie Lewis said he thought it sounds like the county wants to stop progress with the new ordinance. He said residents should not have to build a paved street if they want to divide land among family members, but Harvey noted the ordinance has an inheritance clause to regulate such a conveyance of land.

Southport Man Dies In Wreck Tuesday

A Southport man was killed early Tuesday when he was thrown from his vehicle on N.C. 133 just south of Leland.

James Franklin Stackhouse, 30, of 718 Burlington Ave., died when the vehicle he was driving ran off the road at a high rate of speed, struck a drain culvert, became airborne and overturned three times, reported State Highway Patrol Trooper C.E. Ward.

The accident happened about 2.7 miles south of Leland around 12:35 a.m.

Ward estimated the vehicle traveled 51 feet in the air before striking the ground. It is not known if alcohol was involved, said Highway Patrol Spokesperson Ruby Oakley on Tuesday.

The death brings the total to three on Brunswick County's highways for the year, Ms. Oakley said. One death occurred in January and two in April.

Through the end of April last year, four deaths had been recorded on county roads, she added.

An investigation has also determined that a highway fatality reported in January by the State Highway Patrol was instead a death from natural causes.

Herbert Parker Jr., 65, of Southport, died following an accident on Stone Chimney Road near Holden Beach on Jan. 19.

Ms. Oakley said it was determined that Parker died from natural causes rather than injuries received in the accident.

In another accident early Friday morning, an Ash man was charged with exceeding a safe speed and driving with no operator's license

following a one-car collision west of Shallotte.

William Glenn Ramley Jr., 30, was traveling on Longwood Road (RPR 1321) about 10 miles west of Shallotte when his 1980 Chevrolet pickup ran off the road at a high rate of speed and struck two trees, reported State Trooper B.C. Jones.

Jones estimated Ramley was driving around 85 mph when the 12:30 a.m. accident happened.

Ramley received minor injuries and was taken to the Columbus County Hospital in Whiteville. Damage was listed at \$3,000 to his truck.

In another accident last Thursday night, an Ash woman was charged with driving with no operator's license and an unsafe movement violation after an accident on N.C. 130 west of Shallotte.

Laticia Marie Vereen, 22, was charged by State Highway Patrol Line Sgt. A.C. Midgett following the 10:20 p.m. accident.

Midgett reported that Ms. Vereen was attempting a left turn onto McMilly Road (RPR 1320) when her 1974 Mercury was struck in the right side by a 1986 Buick driven by Terry Wayne Gibson, 43, of Rockingham.

Midgett indicated that Ms. Vereen turned into the path of the Gibson vehicle about 2.7 miles west of Shallotte.

Two passengers in the Vereen car, Carletta Vereen, 19, and Delmonica Bellamy, 16, both of Ash, were taken to The Brunswick Hospital in Supply with minor injuries.

Damage was listed at \$3,000 to the Gibson car and \$500 to the Vereen car.

Pleasant Weather Anticipated

Area residents can expect more pleasant weather over the next few days.

Shallotte Point meteorologist Jackson Canady said the outlook calls for temperatures and rainfall to remain near normal. "Very nice weather this time of year," he noted.

Temperatures should average from the upper 50s at night to the upper 70s during the daytime, with about one-half inch of rainfall.

For the period April 23-29, Can-

ady recorded a daily average temperature of 68 degrees, which was about one degree above average for this time of year.

The maximum high of 85 degrees occurred on the 29th, while the minimum low of 46 degrees occurred on the 25th. He recorded a daily average high of 79 degrees and a nightly average low of 58 degrees.

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