

# Brick-Tossing Vandals Disrupt Community

BY TERRY POPE

Twenty-one mailboxes and a business sign in the Holden Beach area were damaged Saturday night by vandals who rode through the neighborhood and tossed bricks from an automobile.

The Brunswick County Sheriff's Department is looking for some solid evidence that can lead to an arrest.

"We're hoping that someone saw something," said Chief of Detectives Phil Perry.

Information reported to the Sheriff's Department will be kept in confidence, Perry said.

A business sign at the Mirage nightclub on N.C. 130 sustained the most damage, \$300, from a flying brick sometime late Saturday, reported Deputy Charles Crocker.

Crocker said 21 residents reported their mailboxes were struck by bricks during the same night—along Seashore Road, Stanley Road, Boonesneck Road, Turkey Trap Road, Holden Beach Road and Buccaneer Hills Road. Damage averaged \$20 to each mailbox.

In other reports on file at the

## CRIME REPORT

Sheriff's Department:

■Vandals tampered with two drink machines at the Du Pont company in Leland Sunday, reported Deputy Robert Allen. Damage was not listed.

■Electric saws valued at \$280 were stolen from a home on Ocean Pines Drive at Shallotte Point Saturday after someone broke through a rear door, reported Deputy Darryl Marlow.

■A pocketbook taken from a car at Freeman's Club on Mulberry Street in Shallotte was found three hours later at the victim's ex-boyfriend's home in Thomasboro, reported Deputy Patti Hewett. The victim, of Longs, S.C., said the pocketbook and its contents, valued at \$102, were stolen around 1:25 a.m. Monday.

■A Longwood resident had a jar of coins, watch, jewelry, camera and checkbook stolen from his home Friday, reported Deputy Phil Bryant. The suspect entered through a kitchen window.

■An Ash man told Deputy J.M. Adams that a shotgun stolen from

his home between Nov. 20 and Dec. 15 had been spotted at a Shallotte pawn shop. The owner received a tip that the .12-gauge shotgun, valued at \$125, had been pawned by the thieves, who broke through a window to enter his mobile home.

■Burglars entered two cars parked at the New World Club on Saw Mill Road in the Northwest community Sunday, reported Deputy Robert Allen. A pocketbook containing \$75 was taken from one car. Another car was missing \$300 in cash and damage was listed at \$1,000. Thieves broke a lock to enter the trunk.

■Items worth \$462 were stolen from a car in the Wilson's parking lot at Clairmont Plaza in Leland Saturday, reported Deputy Richard DuVall. Two coats, blue jeans, nightgown, shorts, wallet, jewelry and 10 Christmas pins were stolen.

Also, a 1984 Grand Prix owned by an Olde Towne resident was stolen from the same parking lot Sunday, reported Deputy Steve Mason.

■A 1982 Buick, valued at \$3,000, was stolen from a home on Park Avenue in Navassa late Friday, re-

ported DuVall.

■Burglars took \$25,160 in bank notes, cash and collector's coins from a Baldwin Estates home in Leland Sunday, reported Deputy William Hewett. Also taken was a marriage certificate, birth certificate and insurance papers. Damage was listed at \$50.

■Two shotguns were stolen from automobiles parked at the Maco Truck Stop Restaurant Friday. The .12-gauge shotguns were valued at \$400 and \$500 respectively, Deputy DuVall reported.

■A Picket Ridge home in Leland sustained \$250 in damage while \$550 in items are missing, reported Hewett. A television, stereo and candle holder were stolen.

■A Hemingway, S.C., resident told Sgt. Carl Pearson that someone stole a .308-caliber rifle, valued at \$410, from him at a flea market on Long Beach Road last week.

■Thieves removed an air conditioner from a window at Sonja's Grill on U.S. 17 in Supply to break inside, reported Crocker. Damage was listed at \$900 while \$80 in cigarettes and \$100 in change were stolen.

## COUNTY STORE MAKING IMPACT

# Shallotte ABC Profits Fall 68 Percent

Shallotte ABC store's net profits fell by 68 percent during the 1990-91 fiscal year.

But the loss isn't attributed to a local decline in alcohol use.

It's the first time state figures are available to compare what impact Brunswick County's new ABC store on Holden Beach Road (N.C. 130) has had on local municipal ABC board sales over a full 12 months of operation.

Brunswick County's first store, which opened in the fall of 1989, was not included in the annual revenue report for North Carolina ABC Boards last year.

However, figures released last week show the county store cleared a 3.6 percent sales profit from June 30, 1990, to July 1, 1991, while its net profit was \$16,144.

Net profits at the Shallotte ABC store fell from \$93,100 in 1989-90 to just \$30,471 in 1990-91, a drop of 68 percent. The store's sales profits fell from 10.97 percent to 5.47 percent over the same period.

Shallotte's store was the only one in the county that recorded a drop in net profits for the fiscal year. All

other stores showed improvements in both net profits and volume sold over the previous year.

The Shallotte store sold 94,946 total bottles of liquor in 1989-90, but that figure dropped last year to 62,551 bottles.

Long Beach, Yaupon Beach and Southport ABC Boards protested when the county attempted to place a store on Long Beach Road earlier this year. A special bill was passed by legislators preventing county ABC stores from building within seven miles of an existing store.

Municipalities, fearing a drop in profits, also met with the Brunswick County ABC Board to discuss a possible merger, but the matter remains unresolved.

Overall, sales of alcoholic beverages were up for the period, with the nine municipal and one county store clearing \$395,330 in net profits after distributions to law enforcement agencies and for alcohol education and research.

The 10 ABC boards sold 480,943 regular-sized bottles of liquor, the equivalent of 1,317 bottles per day, during the fiscal year that ended in

ABC BOARD	% SALES PROFIT	NET PROFIT	LOCAL DIST.
Belville	9.57	\$62,183	\$62,183
Boiling Spring Lakes	6.0	8,944	—
Brunswick County	3.6	16,144	—
Calabash	8.58	49,879	19,076
Long Beach	8.18	44,376	44,376
Ocean Isle Beach	10.09	50,506	41,446
Shallotte	5.47	30,471	75,000
Southport	12.67	75,429	75,429
Sunset Beach	6.19	23,451	3,595
Yaupon Beach	8.97	33,947	27,158

June. During the previous year, 447,706 bottles were sold in Brunswick County.

The stores also sold an additional 49,238 bottles of liquor for mixed beverages, compared to 35,788 the previous year. Mini-bottles continued to gain in popularity since their introduction in 1989 with 102,741 bottles sold compared to 90,756 the previous year.

Belville's ABC store posted the largest volume of sales, including 80,497 regular bottles and 19,918 mini-bottles. Southport's ABC store posted the greatest percentage profit on sales at 12.67 percent.

At the opposite end of the spectrum, the Boiling Spring Lakes ABC store netted the fewest sales, with just 16,650 bottles sold, a 6 percent profit on sales and net profits of \$8,944.

Distributions of profits by local ABC boards are used to support local schools, fire and rescue units, police departments and other civic purposes as designated in the boards' enabling legislation.

The area's 10 municipal and county ABC boards, their percent profit, net profit and local distribution for the year are shown in the related chart.



STAFF PHOTO BY DORI C. GURIGANUS

## A True Bears Fan

"Oh, gosh, yes!" Calabash Acres resident James Jernigan replies when asked if he's a Chicago Bears fan. Jernigan received this regulation NFL mailbox from his niece when he visited his hometown "around suburban Chicago" about two years ago. Now he shows the world—or at least his mail carrier—which team he supports. With fans like this, Coach Ditka's team may go on to beat Detroit this weekend.

## Man Arrested On Rape Charge

A Calabash area man remained in the Brunswick County Jail under \$100,000 bond Monday after having been charged with first-degree rape.

Louis Ash, 23, of Pinecrest subdivision, is accused of forcing his way into a woman's home in Calabash where she was allegedly raped, reported Brunswick County Sheriff's Detective Nancy Simpson.

According to Deputy Phil Bryant's report, the suspect allegedly told the woman that his car was on fire and asked if he could come inside her home to use the telephone.

After telling the suspect that she did not have a phone and that her husband was asleep, he allegedly forced his way into the home, struck the victim several times, threw her on the floor and raped her, Bryant reported.

The suspect allegedly told the victim that he had been paid to rape her, Bryant reported, and that if she told anyone she would be killed.

The victim was hit several times and bitten on the right arm in the incident, Bryant reported.

Ms. Simpson said the case is still under investigation.

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