STAFF PHOTO BY DORI C. GURGANUS

Beauty And Solitude

A lone runner makes his way down the deserted strand at Ocean Isle Beach last Friday evening, amidst a glowing sunset and cool breezes. Residents of Brunswick County enjoyed blue skies and sunshine over the weekend, but temperatures were just short of springlike. It is, after all, still February.

DOT Denies Calabash Bid For Barrier Along U.S. 17

BY DORI C. GURGANUS

Residents of Northwest Drive in Calabash won't be seeing a noise barrier go up along U.S. 17, courtesy of the state Department of Transportation.

Calabash Commissioner George Anderson told the town board Tuesday night that he had received a letter from Tommy Harrelson, secretary of the N.C. Department of Transportation (DOT) stating that DOT tests several years ago had not determined that excessive noise filtered through from U.S. 17 to the Northwest Drive community.

The town board agreed at its Jan. 28 meeting to request that the DOT install an earthen berm along the side of the highway to reduce noise disturbance and visibility blockage from oncoming automobile headlights on U.S. 17.

Residents of the neighborhood voiced dissatisfaction at the last town meeting about noise coming from U.S. 17 since the recent onset of construction to add two more lanes to the highway.

"The need is not justified," Anderson quoted from Harrelson's letter.

Commissioner Robert Noe also contacted, speaking over the telephone with Doug Bowers, Division 3 engineer with the state DOT.

Bowers told Noe that he would get back to him. Instead, his assistant, Joe Blair, called Noe to say that the need was still not justified, the commissioner said.

Noe told the board that it should now seek political routes and ask local congressmen and representatives to help make requests to the DOT.

"The next move will be a political one," Noe said.

Anderson said Harrelson told him the DOT "will investigate" replacing the flashing light at Country Club Parkway and U.S. 17 with a full traffic signal.

New Improved Town Hall

Commissioner Jon Sanborn submitted more sketches of his proposal to enlarge the town hall, which would include larger meeting space, more offices and handicapped-accessible bathrooms.

> *"The next move will be a political one."*
> —Commissioner Robert Noe

The board agreed to look into obtaining permits for the project as well as costs and availability of labor.

Sanborn estimated the cost of the project at about $30,000 for the additions, heating and air conditioning and new furniture.

As one benefit, he said the proposed design can be easily added onto.

"It'll be the easiest building in the world to build," said Sanborn.

Other Business

In other business:

■Commissioner Stu Thorn reported that the Planning and Zoning Board is working on a new ordinance to specify the functions and duties of that group. Pati Lewellyn has been elected chairperson, and Al Smith has been elected co-chairperson.

■Fire Chief Jerry Prince requested that the board consider incorporating burning permits into town policy, as well as regulations on clear space around fire hydrants and markers on streets designating fire hydrants, since no such restrictions exist now. His requests will be referred to the planning board for consideration.

■Prince also requested that the board make arrangements with Carolina-Blythe Utilities, the company serving Carolina Shores with sewer lines, for inspecting fire hydrants. He asked that the town be allowed to inspect and flush hydrants in all areas of the town. The request comes on the heels of a house fire at which firefighters could not readily open the valve on a hydrant.

Find A Home In The CLASSIFIEDS

Looking for a new home? The classifieds are a great place to find apartments, condos and houses. The listings provide many details to help you make the right choice. Remember the classifieds when you need to find a new home; you'll be pleased with the results!

THE BRUNSWICK BEACON

Main Street, Shallotte • 754-6890

NOW YOUR AD CAN REACH

ALL OF NORTH CAROLINA FOR ONLY $200

25 WORDS

$6 each additional word

N.C. STATEWIDE CLASSIFIEDS

BLANKET NORTH CAROLINA

OVER 120 NEWSPAPERS

(For more information, call this newspaper or...)

SIMPLY FILL OUT THIS FORM AND SEND WITH YOUR CHECK.

(No Phone Orders. Larger order forms are available from this newspaper.)

Name _____

Address _____

_____ Zip _____

Advertising Copy: _____

25 Words—$6 each additional word over 25.

Word count: Telephone numbers (including area code) equal one word. Post office box numbers as two words, box numbers and route numbers as two words. The name of the city, state and zip code each count as one word. Other customary words count as one.

SEND TO:

THE BRUNSWICK BEACON

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING DEPT.

P.O. BOX 2558, SHALLOTTE, NC 28459

(919)754-6890