



STAFF PHOTO BY DORI C. GURGANUS

### Got Spring Fever Yet?

For any Brunswick County residents who haven't caught spring fever yet, perhaps these blooms at Gause Landing will do the trick. With warm temperatures and sunny, clear skies, spring seemed to be on its way during much of the past few weeks.

### Marina Issue May Go Public

The public may get a chance to voice opinions about a proposed rule change regarding the existence of marinas in certain North Carolina waters.

that marinas are not allowed in Outstanding Resource Waters, classified at the state's most unspoiled waters.

The EMC will decide today (Thursday) at its regular meeting in Raleigh, whether or not to invite public comments on the issue, as recommended by staff attorneys.

Environmentalists argue that the EMC's definition potentially harms pristine waters and they have lobbied to use the definition outlined by the Division of Coastal Management.

A dispute has arisen from two conflicting definitions of what a marina is and isn't. The N.C. Environmental Management Commission says a marina has 30 or more boat slips, whereas the N.C. Division of Coastal Management says that 10 or more slips constitute the cut-off point.

The debate stems from a state rule

## Cab Driver Tricked By Holden Beach Rider

BY TERRY POPE

It developed into a very long trip for a taxi driver early Saturday.

A woman who caught a ride from Wilmington to Holden Beach fled without paying the \$51 cab fare.

Ray Callihan, of Port City Taxi, said he picked up the rider at Hardee's restaurant on Market Street and Kerr Avenue in Wilmington and drove her to Britt's Grill on the Holden Beach causeway, arriving there around 5:50 a.m.

According to Brunswick County Sheriff's Deputy Cathy Hamilton's report, the woman told the driver she had to go into the restaurant to get money to pay the fare.

Instead, she fled through a wooded area behind the restaurant. The woman, in her early 30s, did not return.

In other reports on file at the sheriff's department:

■A man claims he was stabbed in the stomach during an argument with his wife early Sunday. The victim told Deputy Charles Crocker they were driving along Cedar Grove Road around 4 a.m. when his wife started kicking out the windshield and grabbed the steering wheel, forcing the car off the road.

They were given a ride by a passing motorist to the wife's father's house in Cedar Grove. After getting out of the car, the man found he was bleeding just below the waist, Crocker said.

■A Leland woman will appear in District Court April 6 on a shoplifting charge. According to Deputy Steve Mason, she was caught Sunday trying to steal three pairs of socks, valued at

### CRIME REPORT

\$4.50, from the Maxway store in Leland.

■An intruder had been living in a vacant mobile home on Brooks Avenue at Seaside between November and March 4, reported Deputy Keithan Horne. The man had spoken to neighbors and apparently took a television and rod and reel worth \$180. A door had been forced open.

■Vandals took a stereo system from a car parked at the Wilson's supermarket in Leland Friday between 4 p.m. and 8:40 p.m. A tape deck, speakers and booster, all valued at \$166, were stolen, reported Deputy Richard DuVall.

■Two homes in Seashore Hills have been broken into. Thieves took \$2 in cash, a rod and reel worth \$39 from one home between Dec. 20 and March 8, causing \$257 in damage to a door, Ms. Hamilton reported.

Another home received \$222 in damage after burglars broke in and took \$47 in beer and liquor between Nov. 12 and March 5, she reported.

■Someone in a white Trans Am drove away with \$12 in gas without paying Friday at Howard's BP station on U.S. 17 in Bolivia, Deputy Darryl Marlow reported.

■Vandals broke into Du Pont's central stores building in Leland Sunday, reported Deputy William Hewett. Damage was estimated at \$40 to a window and \$1,000 to a bill changer.

■Boxes of nails and 10 rolls of insulation were taken from a home on S.R. 1336 (Little Prong Road) in Ash, reported Deputy Phil Bryant. Someone climbed through a window and shot a glass window with a pellet gun.

■Damage was listed at \$250 to a home at Route 1, Winnabow, during a break-in Friday, reported Mason. A rear door was forced open and \$100 in cash and costume jewelry taken.

■A man who took a video recorder from a home on Blue Banks Road near Leland told deputies he took it next door to keep children occupied during a big party, Hewett reported. He returned the recorder, valued at \$100, after detectives investigated.

■Items worth \$4,277 were taken from a home on Shingletree Road Sunday, reported Deputy Randy Robinson. Missing are luggage, a shotgun, microwave, Air Jordan hightop sneakers, stereo, video recorder and a television. A window had been pried open.

■Someone broke into the E.E. Medlin Co. in the Northwest community Saturday, Hewett reported. A chainsaw and heavy duty lock, valued at \$515, were taken.

■A property owner arrived at a lot on Old Georgetown Road Saturday and found his 8-by-10 deck missing, Horne reported. The victim was going to put a mobile home on the lot. Neighbors said they saw someone loading the deck, valued at \$400, onto the rear of a pickup truck between Feb. 23 and March 8.

■Thieves took a kerosene heater, curtains and light bulbs from a home in Cookie Crumb Mobile Home Park on Library Road in Leland Sunday, reported DuVall. Damage was estimated at \$350 while items taken are worth \$178.

■Damage was listed at \$150 to a home in Belville following a break-in Friday, Hewett reported. Missing are a CB radio, suitcase, pistol, stereo, battery charger, clock, saw, Marlboro belt buckle, pocket knife and hand tools, all worth \$1,490.

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