



A WILLET stands beside its dead mate for many hours.

PHOTO BY BILL FAVER

Some Kinds Of Feelings

BY BILL FAVER

Recently I observed two different events which led to thoughts about animal feelings and how much we don't know. First was along a roadside when a big black dog was standing guard over another dog, the victim of a road kill. The dead animal was still on the roadway and the black dog was trying desperately to help it up, so they could continue whatever it was they had been doing.



FAVER

The second was a group of grackles gathered around a dead grackle on the roadside. The group was chattering and dancing and, I felt, trying to revive the bird and understand what was happening.

Both of these episodes reminded me of something that happened at Holden Beach many years ago when I was town administrator. One morning I received a call from a friend up on Ocean Boulevard who told me a willet had been hit by a truck and was dead in his yard.

This was not unusual, of course. But he went on to say the bird's mate had been standing by the body all day. When I went to investigate, the live willet was standing nearby in a mournful state, with wings drooped, and seemed almost lifeless itself. We watched for almost an hour and it would only move around the dead bird, even when we approached. It made no effort to fly or to move on, but stayed right with its fallen mate.

We know a lot about animals and their behavior. We know they can learn and adapt and can respond to various stimuli. We can explain many of their behaviors as natural response and curiosity. We have often said what is different about them is they don't show emotion or have feelings. Anyone who has a dog or a cat or a bird or a seahorse as a pet will question that!

These three experiences make me think there are some kinds of feelings there. Loss of a friend or a companion is a time of grieving and that seemed to be present here. Perhaps they don't understand such things any more than we do, but they share with us the feelings that must be there.

COMMITTEE TO SELECT

If You Could Be Queen...

The Little River Chamber of Commerce and the town's Blue Crab Festival are taking a novel approach to naming the 1992 Blue Crab Festival Queen.

This year's queen will be selected by a committee, not in a pageant.

Women between the ages of 24 and 28 who live in the Little River area (including Brunswick County) are eligible for consideration.

"The Blue Crab Festival is looking for a well-rounded individual who is willing to devote time and energy into making the Blue Crab Festival a better event," said Elizabeth J. Teal, chamber executive. "The Blue Crab Festival Queen may not hold any other titles during her

reign and must be willing to participate in a variety of Little River and Myrtle Beach area events."

A search committee will review portfolios that are to include two 8- by 10-inch photographs and two "snapshot" type candid photographs, along with a brief letter explaining why the applicant would like to be the Blue Crab Festival Queen and what she could offer the festival.

Applications must be received by April 20, with the winner to be announced no later than May 5.

For more information on the requirements, contact the Little River Chamber of Commerce between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. at 803-249-6604.

Letters

(Continued From Preceding Page)
er golf course or another road.

The national Arbor Day people want us to plant more trees to help save our God-given earth. These people can cut down and run over more stuff in one day than we could plant in ten years.

Joan O'Bannion
Ocean Isle Beach

Museum Visit Was Delightful

To the editor:

I would like to share with your readers a most delightful experience I recently enjoyed. As one who has for a long time studied, taught about and appreciated the marvels of our natural world, I was very impressed with what I saw at the Ocean Isle Museum of Coastal Carolina.

Within that newly-created structure I was able to see as well as to experience a marine environment of outstanding beauty and technical expertise. There was a working model of beach tidal movement, which together with a king size diorama of an ocean reef, made one fool a part of the marine environment.

The hundreds of identified shells, both local and exotic, together with mounts of local animal life, would be the envy of larger museums I have visited.

I was a little uneasy standing next to a frightening array of authentic shark jaws, but one of the volunteer curators assured me they were harmless.

This museum is something special which, I am sure, if you try it you will like it.

Bob Kochersberger
Sunset Beach

Cartoon Shocks

To the editor:

As a new resident to the Brunswick County area, and a recent subscriber to *The Brunswick Beacon*, I was shocked at the editorial cartoon in the March 19 issue.

I think cartoonist Barbour could have given a little more thought as to what words were used, and been more forceful with the message rather than to use our Lord's name so sacrilegiously.

Hopefully, I do not come across this type of cartoon again and can read your paper with ease.

Frances Hurley
Calabash



Finally, the airlines have recognized that to get America flying again, they had to do something about high air fares and restrictive non-refundable rules.

If you have been hoping to do some air travel this summer but have been discouraged by high air fares...

...Look Again and Call
BRUNSWICK TRAVEL

For The Good News!!!

SAMPLE AIR FARES*

From Wilmington to...

Pittsburgh	\$130
Philadelphia	\$160
New York	\$210
Detroit.....	\$250
Boston.....	\$260
Chicago.....	\$270
Dallas.....	\$320
Phoenix	\$410
Los Angeles, San Diego, San Francisco.....	\$420

*Based on round trip, 21 day advance booking & purchase



BRUNSWICK TRAVEL INC.
CRUISE HEADQUARTERS
1-800-852-2736

754-7484 • 150 Holden Beach Rd., Shallotte, NC 28459

© 1992 THE BRUNSWICK BEACON

A Home Improvement Loan Helped The Dabneys Turn Their New Kitchen Into Their New Family Room.

Now What Can We Do For You?

NationsBank knows that by improving your home, we can help you improve your life. With that idea in mind, we helped the Dabneys expand and remodel their kitchen, turning it into a room the whole family can use.

That's the thinking behind every loan we make. NationsBank not only gives you the power to take advantage of the lowest interest rates in 28 years,* but we may also be able to help you reduce your overall monthly payments and pay less in taxes.

Our Loan Specialists can offer you a variety of ways to take advantage of today's low rates. You can choose a NationsBank home equity loan, with flexible options and terms to meet your specific needs.

Or you can use the equity in your house to establish a home equity line of credit that actually lets you write your own loans. Both of these loans may mean significant tax savings for you. Of course, your tax advisor can help you determine if tax deductibility may benefit you.

You may also be able to use today's low rates, along with the equity in your home, to restructure the debt you already have. For example, a NationsBank home equity line of credit or home equity loan may help you refinance your existing car note or consolidate the balances on any high-interest loans. By doing so, you may end up paying a lot less each month.

Visit NationsBank today, or call to find out how our Loan Specialists can give you the power to turn your house into a better home.

NationsBank
The Power To Make A Difference.™

