This Place Designed With Guests In Mind



AN EXTERIOR VIEW of the two-story cedar shake Holcomb home at Ocean Isle Beach reveals a number of decks.

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The family began watching the progress of this 3,600-square-foot house last December and moved in around Easter, actually two weeks before it was promised. "We checked the building out every afternoon from our first home, three houses up the street." Mary Mack

They had come to Ocean Isle from Augusta three years ago when the firm Holcomb worked for went out of business. "We came here, where I'd visited since the 60s, just to make a decision about our future," she explained. "Then we got sand in our shoes and stayed. Now, I don't ever want to leave.'

The new house is a big part of what she loves and wants to keep forever. It does reflect the Holcombs in its open, welcoming look, especially the big deck that stretches along the entire back wall, outfitted with comfortable rockers, tables and green plants. An outdoor shower is a boon to guests and to the hosts, keeping sand where it belongs.

The living room and its adjacent "barroom" continue the sense of

walls and furniture are colorful print valances at the window, the fabric repeated in sofa cushions. "I made all the window treatments." Mary Mack said, "all the accessories except pillows."

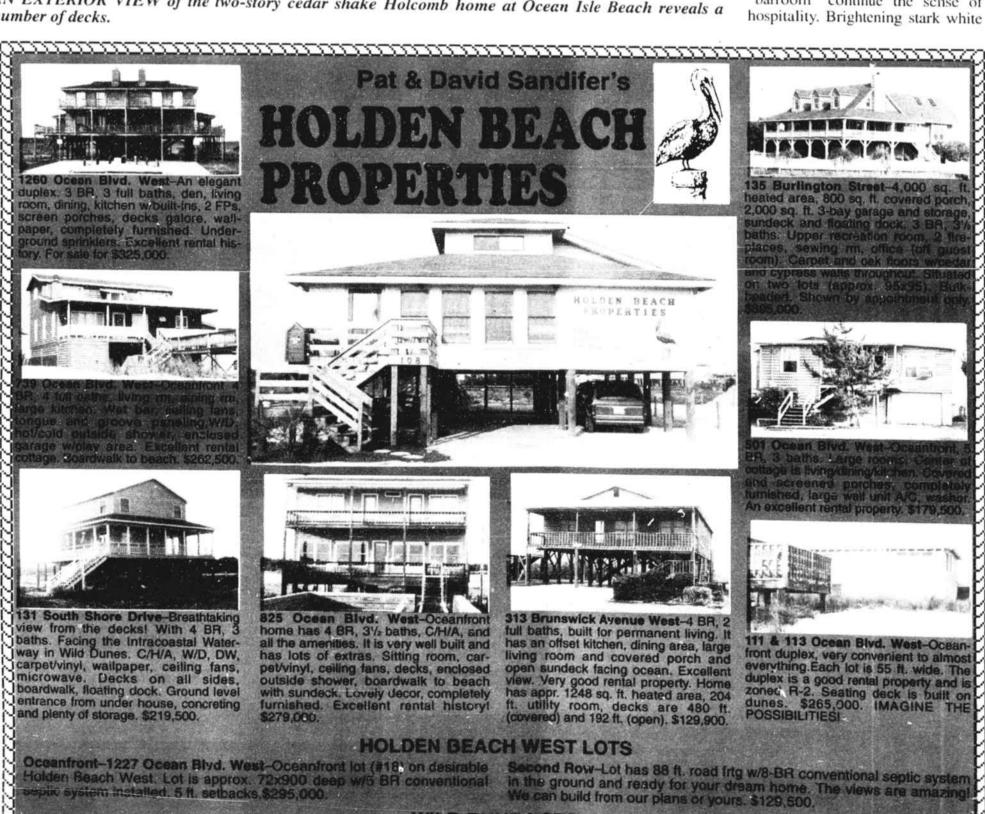
An unusual white-columned archway opens into the barroom, where a genuine juke box sits in an alcove, ready to play more than 100 beach music hits, with no quarters

The spacious kitchen adjoining this casual room is done in blue. and a downstairs bath is unexpectedly Victorian, with dark green wallpaper and burgundy trim.

Everywhere are interesting angles, but the house is nowhere overdecorated. These rooms are meant for living and partying, and that's exactly what happens. Mary Mack assured me.

"We have lots of houseguests," she said, "at least every other weekend. I love to entertain, but we do 'barefoot' entertaining. I've trained my guests to know I'm not the maid. They must clean their bathroom before they leave, because someone else is coming right be-

(See Following Page)



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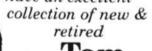
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