Townhouse plans draw threat of suit over density

BY CHARLES SWENSON

A citizens group is prepared to mount a legal challenge if Georgetown County approves two townhouse developments in the Parkersville community with a total of 109 units.

“If it’s approved as is, I think I can safely say we would appeal it,” said Cindy Person, attorney for Keep It Green. The Planning Commission will hold a hearing today on the plans submitted for two parcels owned by members of the Nesbit family. A 79-acre tract on Parkerville Road is proposed for 56 three-bedroom townhouses, 6.9 acres on Peligina Drive are proposed for 53 townhouses of the same size.

The county zoning ordinance requires the commission to review the plan for compliance with the land-use regulations. Its recommendation goes to County Council for final approval. The property is zoned “general residential,” which allows multifamily development provided it meets the regulations.

“At the end of the day, if they meet all the criteria of the ordinances, there’s nothing we can do about it,” Council Member Rob Anderson said. “That doesn’t mean the county doesn’t havelatitude in what it approves. Person said. “This isn’t a rubber-stamp process, and it shouldn’t be,” he said.

Keep It Green has opposed several zoning changes that increased residential density it filed suit against the county in January over a rezoning for a tract off Highway 17 near Waterfall Heights. That case is still pending.

For the Nesbit properties, “we’re not challenging the use. General residential allows townhouses,” Person said. However, Keep It Green has proposed several zoning changes that increased residential density it filed suit against the county.

SCHOOLS

District adds A.I. devices to search for weapons

BY CHRIS SOKOLOSKI

COASTAL OBSERVER

As school safety measures evolve, the Georgetown County School District changes to keep up with the times.

The district has ordered a “weapons detection system” for its schools for the 2022-23 school year. The system, called a Bluetooth-enabled lockbox, is a device that can be installed in the front office at each school if meeting the security camera system.

The Bluetooth-enabled lockbox allows security guards to send an alert through the school’s security camera system. If trouble is detected, the sensor will alert the school’s security camera system. The district already has the devices, but it is waiting for wiring upgrades to install them.

A new addition coming to the front office at each school is a Bluetooth-enabled lockbox.

First day of school | Deputy Joe Muto, the new school resource officer at Waccamaw Elementary, helps Aurora Banks find her classroom for her first day of kindergarten. At left, September Tester gets a kiss from her mom, Angela, before her first day in pre-K at Waccamaw Elementary, where her grandfather, Robert Cox, right, is also running, along with Brian Miller.

Women donate labor along with funds for senior cottage

By Chris Sokoloski

COASTAL OBSERVER

Women have a new cottage to call home as the walls of his new home went up in a matter of days.

“I’m very excited,” Graham said. “I’m very grateful.”

Graham’s new home, on Merriman Road in Georgetown, across from Food Lion, is the second one being built as part of Habitat for Humanity Georgetown County’s cottage program.

The cottage was paid for by a donation from Club 142 United, a Pawleys Island-based activist women’s group.

Nearly three dozen club members were at the site installing the walls of his new home went up in a matter of days.

“We had help from everyone that we put on the workshop at the Habitat office since April,” Graham said. “They’re just non-stop excited and excited,” the club’s president, Karen Vaniga, said. They just got a few together and did good things. It’s amazing.”

As soon as the club members heard about the cottage project, the money flowed in and the excitement was palpable. Vaniga said Club 142 raised more than enough money to pay for the cottage. Habitat may use the excess funds for unforeseen expenses or hold onto it to use for another cottage.

At 675 square feet, Graham’s house will have a combination of living area and kitchen, a bedroom large enough for a hospital bed or a caregiver’s bed, and one bathroom.

The women of Club 142 help raise a wall at the Graham cottage.

Nonprofits | Habitat for Humanity

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