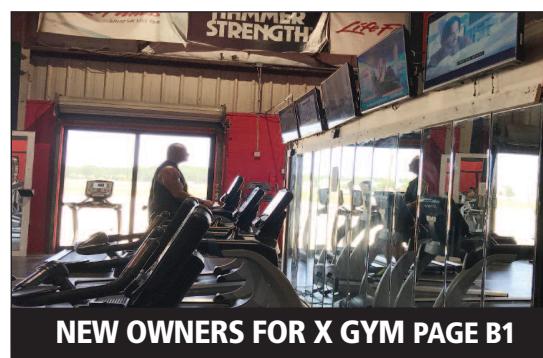


CAROLINA FOREST CHRONICLE

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County, cities continue sparring over hospitality fee

BY VIRAJ NAIK AND CHARLES D. PERRY

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In another bizarre twist, Horry County officials plan to continue collecting a hospitality fee in local cities.

Despite some leaders saying last week that they misinterpreted a

judge's ruling about where the fee could be collected, county council members took no action following a special executive session Saturday afternoon. The lack of a vote means the county will collect the controversial 1.5 percent hospitality fee in all cities except Myrtle Beach.

"We got the legal advice from our lawyers in our executive session," Horry County Council Chairman Johnny Gardner said. "Based on that, we are staying the course and moving forward."

Councilman Johnny Vaught said an attorney representing the county told council members that

Gardner a vote to stop collection of the fee in all cities would be detrimental to the county's case. But two days earlier, Vaught had said a circuit judge's ruling on June 21 meant

that the county should not collect the fee in any Grand Strand cities until a lawsuit over the fees is resolved.

"It was a screw up pure and simple," Vaught said at that time.

Concerns about misinterpreting

HOSPITALITY FEE, A3

'You can come out here and enjoy a family environment'

How seven years of therapy led to a new drive-in movie theater near Longs and Tabor City

BY CHRISTIAN BOSCHULT
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TABOR CITY—As thunderstorms rolled in on a recent Friday night, Sherry Barnes stood outside the small shack that houses the projector for her new drive-in movie theater, nestled within the farmland between Tabor City and Longs.

Despite the rain, several cars had shown up to see "A Dog's Way Home."

As the rain got heavier and the sky lit up with lightning, Barnes wasn't worried about getting pelted by drops while she made popcorn. "I'm fine," she laughed. She had been through worse.

Seven years ago, Barnes was in a car accident. Her passenger was killed. Barnes survived, but had to endure seven years of physical therapy.

"I'm still doing stem cell therapy, which comes from babies," she said. "I did my speech therapy, a lot of it reading, praying and singing with the children. They didn't care if my speech was impaired."

Even though she was told she'd never walk again, she rose above the odds.

"I said 'Dear Lord, what do I do for these kids?'" Barnes recalled. "Some of them never get to get out of these four walls and then when they do, they've got three or four siblings."

Barnes said she prayed for an idea, "and then one day, boom!"

That idea was a drive-in movie theater in the Bug Hill area of North

DRIVE-IN, A2



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"Fire in the hole," Sherry Barnes said as she lit the fireworks before the rain started at State Line Movie Time drive-in. Barnes said she's hoping the site between the Longs community and Tabor City, North Carolina, will bring back family time. The site has areas to play, sit outside under the stars and watch movies as well as popcorn and sodas. Pointing to a truck parked on the edge of the field, Barnes said there's a sofa in the truck bed for folks to use if they want. State Line Movie Time is located at 3835 Dothan Road, Tabor City.



CHARLES D. PERRY | CHARLES.PERRY@MYHORRYNEWS.COM
A developer has contacted Horry County Council about converting at least part of these courses into single-family housing.

Councilmen: Developer eyes Carolina Forest golf courses

The Wizard, Man O' War are sister courses built in mid 1990s

BY CHARLES D. PERRY
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A pair of Carolina Forest golf courses could be converted into a housing development.

Horry County Council members recently confirmed that they have been approached by a developer interested in turning at least parts The Wizard and Man O'War courses into single-family homes. The courses sit near Waterford Plantation.

"That's my district," councilman Danny Hardee told the Carolina Forest Civic Association last month. "I represent y'all. And what you want, that's what we're going to do. It's not my decision to put any homes in there. It doesn't make any difference to me because I don't live there. But y'all do."

Hardee said his discussions with the developer are in the "very early stages" and he stressed that no homes would be built there until

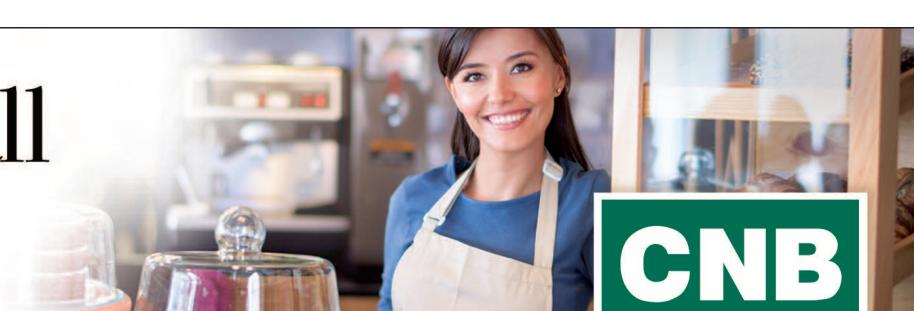
the widening of Carolina Forest Boulevard is finished. The widening began last month and construction is projected to wrap up by the spring of 2021. Hardee also said the developer is considering building a "cut-through" road that would turn right onto U.S. 501.

The Wizard and Man O'War are sister courses that were built in the mid-1990s.

As of last week, no plans had

GOLF COURSES, A2

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