



STAFF PHOTO BY LYNN CARLSON

Shirts With A Message

Jim Love, Hope Harbor Home auxiliary board member, and wife Jane sport T-shirts with the message of Domestic Violence Prevention Day, set for Oct. 23 in Brunswick County. The shirts are being sold through area churches and the Hope Harbor Home office. They are available for \$10 each, and proceeds will go to Brunswick County's shelter for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and their children.

Rice Culture Is Lecture Topic

A botany professor at The Citadel will lecture about rice culture in the Carolinas Friday, Oct. 14, at the Cape Fear Museum in Wilmington. The last local crop of rice was produced at Brunswick County's Orton Plantation in the early 20th century. Rice was one of the region's leading crops from colonial days until the first decade of the 20th century. Dependent on slave labor, it gradually faded out of existence in the region after the Civil War.

His publications include "Rice Culture in South Carolina: A Brief History, the Role of Huguenots and Preservation of its Legacy," published in *Transactions of the Huguenot Society of South Carolina*, and "Geographies of the Past: Rice Slaves and Technological Transfer in South Carolina," published in *Southeastern Geographer*. In 1970 he established the Citadel Herbarium and continues to serve as its director and curator.

Dr. Richard Porcher's "Rice Culture in the Carolinas" will begin at 11 a.m. as part of the Bit of History lecture season. He will discuss the economic and sociological factors relating to the rise and fall of local rice farming. The lecture is free and open to the public. Porcher, a native of Charleston, S.C., holds a Ph.D. in biology from the University of South Carolina. He has taught botany at The Citadel since 1970.

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Ruark Foundation Sponsors First Art Exhibit

Entries are being sought for the first annual Robert Ruark Foundation Art Exhibition which will hang in Franklin square Gallery Nov. 5-30. Open to artists 18 years of age and older, the exhibit offers cash prizes, gifts and gift certificates totaling more than \$1,500, with a \$500 award for "best of show." First, second and third-place awards will be presented in each of the exhibit's two categories. Entries will be accepted in two- and three-dimensional categories including oil, watercolors, acrylics, sculpture and pottery. No mixed media or collages, photography or com-

puter-generated work will be accepted. All works must be original and available for sale. Works will be juried Oct. 29, and an awards reception will be held at the gallery Nov. 5 from 7-9 p.m. All works must be hand-delivered to the gallery and will be received Oct. 21 and 22 from 10:30 a.m. until 5 p.m., and Oct. 23 from 1-5 p.m. Two-dimensional works will be judged by Alex Powers, and three dimensional works, by Hiroshi Sueoshi. Both men Wilm. artists. "This exhibit marks the first visual arts event the foundation has sponsored," said Bette Leggett, pres-

ident of the organization. "We expect it to become a major part of our total program," she said. For more information about the exhibit and a prospectus for entries, artists may contact exhibit chairman June Gottlieb Brown at (910) 457-6929, or Bette Leggett at (910) 457-5494. The Robert Ruark Foundation, headquartered in Southport, is a nonprofit organization which promotes the cultural arts through sponsorship of poetry and short fiction competitions, theatrical productions and an annual festival.

The N.C. Humanities Council recently awarded the foundation a grant to begin planning the November 1995, Robert Ruark Festival. Organized in 1989, the foundation commemorates the literary career of Wilmington native Robert C. Ruark, journalist and novelist, who spent boyhood summers with his grandparents in Southport. His best-selling *The Old Man and the Boy* is a collection of stories and vignettes of life in this Cape Fear River fishing village where he learned to hunt, fish and read the classics under the guidance of his grandfather.

West Brunswick High DECA Elects Officers, Plans Year

West Brunswick High School DECA Chapter elected Kim Dowless as president at the chapter's first meeting of the school year on Sept. 26. The 56 students presented also elected Kelly Stepp, vice president; Suzanne Moore, secretary; Rebecca DeRosa, treasurer; Grace Yarbrough, reporter; Amanda Bryan, historian; and Thomas Butler, parliamentarian. Plans include attending the Marketing Leadership Conference Oct. 18 at Bladen Community Col-

lege, holding a fundraising event to send students to various conferences, and volunteering at the N.C. Oyster Festival. At the marketing conference, chapter officers Kim Dowless and Amanda Bryan plan to run for district offices and members will attend workshops. At the N.C. Oyster Festival, chapter members will gather trash, staff entrance gates and help the sponsoring South Brunswick Islands Chamber of Commerce in other ways.

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