



Photo by Jim Harper

A yachtsman rows his tender back across the Southport yacht basin after shopping ashore for food. Migrating sailboats are frequent visitors in the basin while others employ an anchorage in Dutchman Creek, just off the Intracoastal Waterway, for overnight stops.

Zoning to protect others

Too late for quarry, opponents ask change

By Terry Pope
County Editor

A long list of changes to the county zoning ordinance probably wouldn't affect Martin Marietta's proposed rock quarry north of Southport.

However, if passed the amendments would protect other parts of the county in the future, mine opponents say.

It'll take another month before Brunswick County Planning Board members can wade through the lengthy request from organizers of the Brunswick Anti-Mining Alliance, a citizens group opposed to the Martin Marietta project.

They now hope to patch a zoning ordinance that did not keep Martin Marietta out of their neighborhood near Bethel Church Road. The firm received its final building permits from the county last week.

Led by Robert Quinn, the group hopes to ban mines, quarries, animal slaughtering and processing plants, junkyards, hazardous materials treatment facilities, below- and above-

'The theory behind the changes proposed are to attain a level of conformity in the land use plan and zoning ordinance that compliments what Brunswick County has evolved into as a residential, resort and retirement area and one of the fastest-growing tourist spots in the State of North Carolina.'

Robert Quinn
Martin Marietta opponent

ground storage tanks and incinerators from the county. They stated their case to planners at a public hearing last week.

"This is the first step of a multi-step process," said John Thompson, planning board chairman. It may take an ad hoc committee to study the amend-

ments, since they are so numerous. "I'm going to raise that question, because that's a lot of material," he added.

County planners are not sure, by state law, whether all of what the group has asked for can be legally

See Quarry, page 7

State permit hearing Tuesday night, large turnout expected

By Terry Pope
County Editor

The state has received a request to delay a public hearing on Martin Marietta's state mining permit set for next Tuesday.

But the hearing is still scheduled as planned.

The company wants to mine 399 acres of its large tract north of Southport. The public will have a chance to

comment on the proposal before officials with the N. C. Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources.

The hearing is set for November 30, 7 p.m., at the county government center near Bolivia.

John Snyder, retired attorney who lives in Southport, has asked that the hearing be postponed. The public has insufficient information by which to judge the environ-

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Voter check changes nothing

Long Beach group, property managers hearing Tuesday

By Holly Edwards
Municipal Editor

The Brunswick County Board of Elections held hearings last week for 53 people whose voter registrations were challenged by a Long Beach resident.

The board sustained ten of the challenges, over-ruled eight and tabled seven until it could obtain more information. "Concerned Citizens of Long

'It seems to me before someone files a challenge they should get their facts straight.... It took up my time and it's a waste of taxpayers' money.'

Sandra Polston
Long Beach resident

Beach" member Becky Holt withdrew 28 challenges when it was shown the people were in fact Long Beach

residents. Of the 53 people who were challenged only 15 actually went to the

polls, said board of elections director Lynda Britt. Fourteen of the ballots were placed in a sealed envelope pending the outcome of the hearings, and one ballot was accidentally counted in the final results.

The results of the hearings will have no effect on the outcome of the election.

"The wins were big wins," Britt pointed out. "None of the votes were close enough that the challenges would have mattered."

Candidates supported by "concerned citizens" were solidly defeated by the incumbents and council candidates. See Check, page 6

Long Beach voices quarry objection

By Holly Edwards
Municipal Editor

Long Beach council members declared last week that the proposed Martin Marietta Aggregates limestone quarry would harm the environment and overall quality of life enjoyed by the Southport-Oak Island. See Voice, page 6

Water discharge permit, page 7

What opponents now ask, page 7

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BHI may seek sprinkler law

General Assembly help may be sought

By Jim Harper
Staff Writer

Bald Head Island mayor Bill Watkins said Saturday that state legislation permitting required fire-suppression sprinklers might be sought by the village.

The village council in a special November 7 session asked the North Carolina Building Code Council to allow a sprinkling requirement for new multi-family construction -- largely a meaningless gesture, since no new multi-family construction is contemplated on the island.

But Watkins indicated Saturday that Bald Head might ask for special permission from the state legislature to require sprinklers.

Chapel Hill received such permission in the past legislative session, ending the tradition that the building code council was

the supreme authority on safety-related building requirements. (The building council, a creature of the legislature, is a 15-member body appointed by the governor to regulate state construction laws.)

Fire destroyed ten three-story buildings in the Swansquarter condominium complex September 30, leading to a request by fire chief Gregg Turner that sprinklers be required in all new island construction.

On Saturday Earl F. Fowler, fire marshal and assistant fire chief in Raleigh, told the council that sprinklers "would have slowed the Swansquarter fire and could possibly have helped the fire department to prevent its spread."

"A sprinkler system will make a community safer and can save money," Fowler said. "It can save property; it can save lives."

See Sprinkler, page 6

OUTSIDE



Forecast

The extended forecast Wednesday and Thursday calls for partly cloudy skies, followed by mostly cloudy skies Friday and Saturday. Highs will be in the 70s on Wednesday; Thursday through Saturday expect highs in the 60s and lows in the 40s.

Tide table

| HIGH | THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 25 | LOW |
|-----------|-----------------------|------------|
| 4:54 a.m. | | 11:07 a.m. |
| 5:13 p.m. | | 11:17 p.m. |
| HIGH | FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26 | LOW |
| 5:38 a.m. | | 11:54 a.m. |
| 5:57 p.m. | | 12:01 p.m. |
| HIGH | SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27 | LOW |
| 6:21 a.m. | | 12:01 a.m. |
| 6:39 p.m. | | 12:39 p.m. |
| HIGH | SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28 | LOW |
| 7:00 a.m. | | 12:43 a.m. |
| 7:19 p.m. | | 12:39 p.m. |
| HIGH | MONDAY, NOVEMBER 29 | LOW |
| 7:39 a.m. | | 1:22 a.m. |
| 7:56 p.m. | | 2:01 p.m. |
| HIGH | TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 30 | LOW |
| 8:18 a.m. | | 2:02 a.m. |
| 8:33 p.m. | | 2:41 p.m. |
| HIGH | WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 1 | LOW |
| 8:57 a.m. | | 2:41 a.m. |
| 9:14 p.m. | | 3:22 p.m. |

The following adjustments should be made:
Bald Head Island, high -10, low -7; Caswell Beach, high -5, low -1; Southport, high +7, low +15; Yaupon Beach, high -32, low -45; Lockwood Folly Inlet, high -22, low -8.