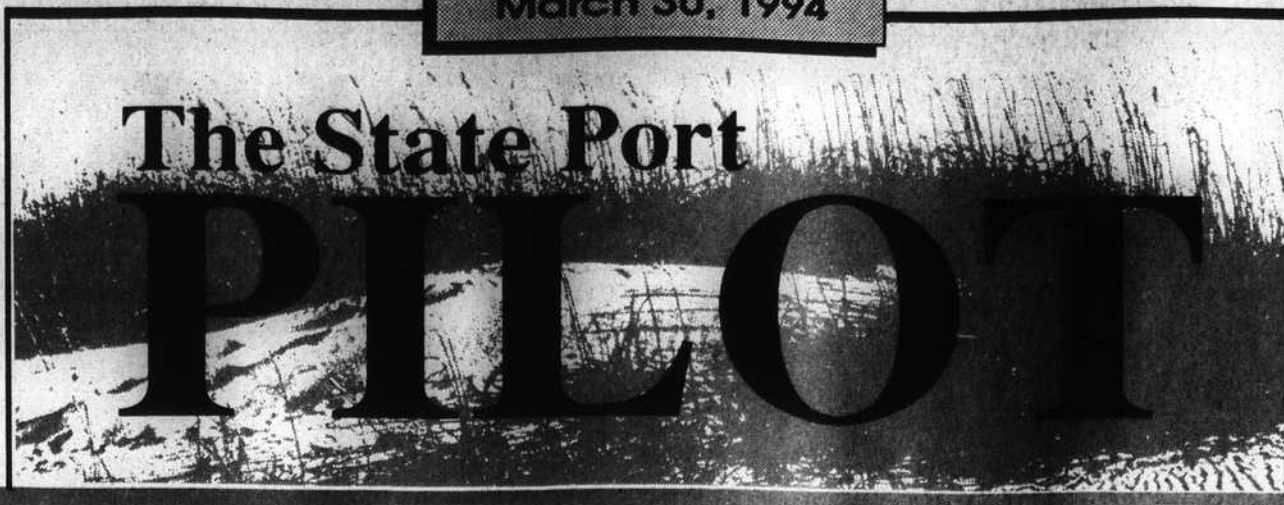


March 30, 1994



Neighbors

Over 400 horsemen rode at Long Beach to benefit the volunteer fire department



VOLUME 63/ NUMBER 31

SOUTHPORT, N.C.

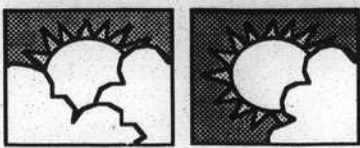
50 CENTS

Our Town

Warm weather brings out the flowers -- and gypsy moths; spraying will start

Sports

All Brunswick County teams play this week in the Seashell baseball tourney



Forecast

The extended forecast calls for partly cloudy skies Thursday through Sunday, with highs in the 60s and lows in the 40s.



Easter sunrise services will be held at 6:30 a.m. Sunday. Locations are the Southport Community Building on the waterfront, the N. C. Baptist Assembly at Fort Caswell, and the Bald Head Island lighthouse.

The State Port Pilot Pilot Line

Weather updates are available on Pilot Line. Dial 457-5084, then extension 191. Other Pilot Line services are listed on page 6.



Daylight Savings Time chimes in at 1 a.m. Sunday when clocks should be set ahead one hour. Remember: "Spring forward, Fall back."

Coming up...



THE ROBERT RUARK CHILI COOKOFF will be held Saturday in Southport's Franklin Square Park. The event also features arts and crafts and entertainment.

SOUTHPORT REMEMBERS will present an April 9-10 commemoration of the town's role in World War II. The Sea Notes Choral Society will perform during the event in the Community Building, originally constructed for the USO in the 1940s.

ART IN THE PARK will be held Saturday, April 16, in Franklin Square. The event will feature a variety of entertainment as well as activities for children and other people.

Tide table

HIGH	THURSDAY, MARCH 31	LOW
11:03 a.m.		4:56 a.m.
11:41 p.m.		5:06 p.m.
	FRIDAY, APRIL 1	
12:02 a.m.		5:53 a.m.
----- p.m.		6:04 p.m.
	SATURDAY, APRIL 2	
12:41 a.m.		6:53 a.m.
1:04 p.m.		7:06 p.m.
	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS	
	SUNDAY, APRIL 3	
1:43 a.m.		8:54 a.m.
3:07 p.m.		9:11 p.m.
	MONDAY, APRIL 4	
3:45 a.m.		9:55 a.m.
4:10 p.m.		10:15 p.m.
	TUESDAY, APRIL 5	
4:44 a.m.		10:51 a.m.
5:08 p.m.		11:14 p.m.
	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6	
5:39 a.m.		11:42 a.m.
6:00 p.m.		----- p.m.



Photo by Jim Harper

Sun sets over the Southport yacht basin, an active harbor and in every season one of the main attractions on Southport's Riverwalk.

Long Beach forum

Candidates address issues

By Terry Pope
County Editor

A performance audit for county government? Shouldn't the doors be open 24 hours at the sheriff's department? Some candidates have ideas about how to run the county or how to provide better law enforcement if they are elected.

Several spoke at a candidates forum sponsored by the Long Beach United for Progress committee last week.

Four Democrats for sheriff, two Republican candidates for the District 3 commissioner's seat and two school board hopefuls attended.

"The present commissioners just about demanded that the board of education have a performance audit," said Bob Slockett of Yaupon

Beach, a Republican candidate for the District 3 commissioner's seat. "I'm in favor of a performance audit for county government."

Both the school board and county commissioners agreed last week to pay half for an efficiency audit of the school system to cover all areas of its operation. In 1991, the county hired David M. Griffith and Associates to conduct a similar review of county departments.

The commissioners made personnel cuts in areas where Griffith's study indicated they were needed and hired in areas that were understaffed.

"I agree that a performance audit is a good business tool," added Leslie Collier of Long Beach, who faces Slockett in the May 3 Republican primary. A business owner and nurse, she said commis-

See Forum, page 6

Long Beach Poly-cart opinions being sought

By Holly Edwards
Municipal Editor

Stray Poly-carts clutter roadsides in Long Beach and sometimes roll into the path of vehicles, but town officials admit they don't know what to do about the problem.

Council member Jeff Ensminger recently proposed an ordinance that would require all property owners to place their Poly-carts at the roadside no more than 24 hours prior to trash collection, and to remove them no more than 24 hours after trash collection. Poly-carts left out for longer periods would be subject to confiscation, and property owners would have to pay \$25 to recover them.

"We've haggled over this thing for three years, and we've heard all kinds of proposed solutions," Ensminger told the council. "But I haven't been able to come up with anything more than what I've come up with."

A public hearing on the proposal will be held April 19 prior to the council's next meeting.

Mayor Joan Altman urged all out-of-town property owners, and all in-town residents who cannot attend the hearing, to mail their comments and suggestions to Town Hall.

While town residents complain the Poly-carts are unsightly and unsafe, out-of-town property owners say they cannot drive hundreds of miles back to town just to remove their Poly-carts from the roadside.

"I hope you realize what a tremendous burden this will place on absentee property owners," Raleigh resident and Pelican Drive homeowner Herb Horne told the council. "For the life of me I cannot see how we can come down here 24 hours before the trash is collected and put our Poly-cart out."

Some town residents also say the proposed ordinance would be too restrictive.

"I live here, but once a month I leave on Friday and come back on Monday," said Harold Watson. "I put the cart back in my yard as soon as I get back, but they'd tow that thing off before

See Poly-cart, page 6

CRC help asked for wetlands

Martin Marietta could be affected

By Terry Pope
County Editor

The battle over a proposed mining operation near Southport entered a new arena when it landed on the table before the N. C. Coastal Resources Commission last week.

Residents say they need quick action to protect the underground Castle Hayne aquifer, a source of drinking water for parts of Brunswick County, but Martin Marietta officials believe such a proposal is just an attempt to sabotage their state mining permits.

Both sides must wait at least two months before the CRC settles the dispute. The board wants more information from the N. C. Division of Coastal Management before it decides whether to designate land between Southport and Boiling Spring Lakes as an "area of environmental concern" aimed to protect against dewatering of the aquifer.

"I am not addressing any permits," said Rosetta Short of Long Beach. "The permits will take care of themselves through the many agencies."

Ms. Short, who serves on the Coastal Resources Advisory Council, in January nominated the large tract as an area of environmental concern before the CRC, which met at Sunset Beach and meets again in May. Her goal is to protect wetlands, prime nursery waters, limesinks and both federal and state endangered species along Walden Creek and its tributaries which feed into the Cape Fear River north of Southport.

The map has since been revised to exclude Carolina Power and Light Co.'s Brunswick nuclear plant property, but includes all of the 600 acres Martin Marietta owns and 400 acres

See Wetlands, page 6

'I don't think you can say this area is untouched or has been unchanged by human activity.'

John Long
Martin Marietta

Town considers special charge for water usage

By Holly Edwards
Municipal Editor

Swimming pool owners in Yaupon Beach will have a once-a-year opportunity to fill their pools and pay water costs only, and gardeners will be able to purchase a second water meter to record outdoor water use and thereby eliminate sewer fees on that water usage, if Yaupon Beach commissioners approve the recommendations they considered Monday in a workshop session.

Commissioners directed town clerk Nancy Wilson to draft an ordinance listing the recommendations, and forward the proposal to engineering consultant Finley Doney and town attorney Jim Prevaite for review.

The board recommended that residents be allowed to purchase a second

See Water usage, page 5

Yaupon sewer could back up

By Holly Edwards
Municipal Editor

Yaupon Beach commissioners met in executive session Monday night to discuss what mayor May Moore called a "snag" in completion of the town's sewage treatment plant.

The board will reconvene in executive session today (Wednesday) at 4:30 p.m. to continue its discussion.

The infiltration basin, where the treated wastewater is applied, is not working properly and could flood if

See Sewer, page 5

The deadline for Vacation '94 advertising is April 6; call 457-4568 to reserve your space.