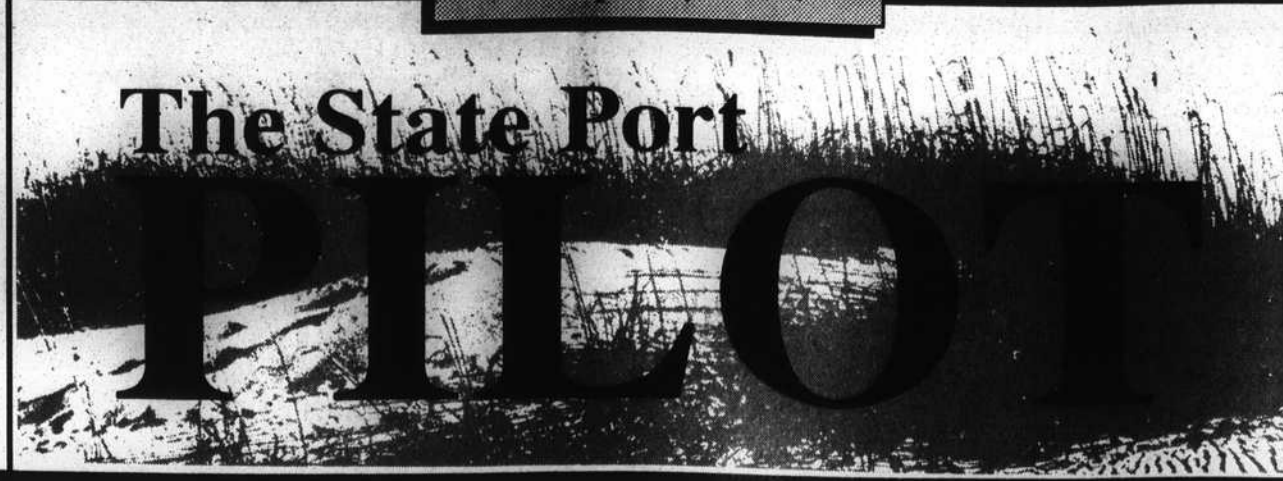




Sports

South Brunswick joins the one-hit parade as the chase for a playoff spot continues



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Our Town

Boiling Spring Lakes will assume control -- and responsibility -- for areas

Neighbors

Southport chief Bob Gray spent much of his career investigating murders

Cafeteria equipment

Improper sale probe goes on

By Terry Pope
County Editor

Some personnel action has been recommended by an investigator probing into the sale of surplus cafeteria equipment without the school board's authority.

But the probe will continue for at least another month, and school superintendent Ralph Johnston said Tuesday he has made no personnel decisions.

In executive session last week, attorney Brian Shaw, representing the firm hired to conduct the investigation, presented some of the findings to the Brunswick County Board of Education.

The investigation was ordered to find out how 46 pieces of used cafeteria equipment from Southport Elementary School ended up in the hands of Jarvis Jones, a Long Beach restaurant owner, for just \$350. Jones reportedly later sold 12 pieces of the equipment for \$7,800 to Ed's Carolina Restaurant Equipment in Wilmington.

The board has filed a lawsuit in Brunswick County District Court against Jones, seeking payment of at least \$10,000 for the items.

School board attorney Glen Peterson said the report makes "certain personnel recommendations directly to Dr. Johnston" and are sensitive items relating to employees. Such information cannot be released to the public, he said.

"At this point in time, because obviously it involves just in its very nature the performance of workers employed by the school system," said Peterson, "it would be very difficult to release any of that information at this time. That's just my feelings about it."

The information given to the board last week, said Johnston, was a preliminary report. He said the attorneys had been asked to prepare a written report which may be made public by next month.

"I've made no decisions on anything at this point," said Johnston.

Schools request 'conservative'

By Terry Pope
County Editor

School officials will ask for a 29-percent increase in local funds for the 1994-95 fiscal year.

But first, they will hold a public hearing on the proposed budget request before sending it to county commissioners.

This school board has never held a public hearing on a proposed budget -- one is not required by law -- but a hearing is set for tonight (Wednesday) at Supply Elementary School at

7 p.m.

The board will seek public support for a 29-percent increase in local allocations, from \$8,730,000 last year to \$11,284,317.

Those figures can be tricky, for the total local spending is projected at a rate of 18.2 percent over last year. The system applied \$600,000 of its remaining fund balance to last year's budget after commissioners

cut a requested 26.5-percent increase far short of what school officials had hoped for. The county awarded a total 17-percent increase

instead.

Approximately \$1.1 million of the increase is for additional salaries. Also, the board is asking for \$8.3 million in its capital outlay budget for category I on-site improvements and building repairs, category II equipment and supply requests and category III transportation needs.

The \$5.4 million needed to complete funding for a new Leland area elementary school is also included in this figure.

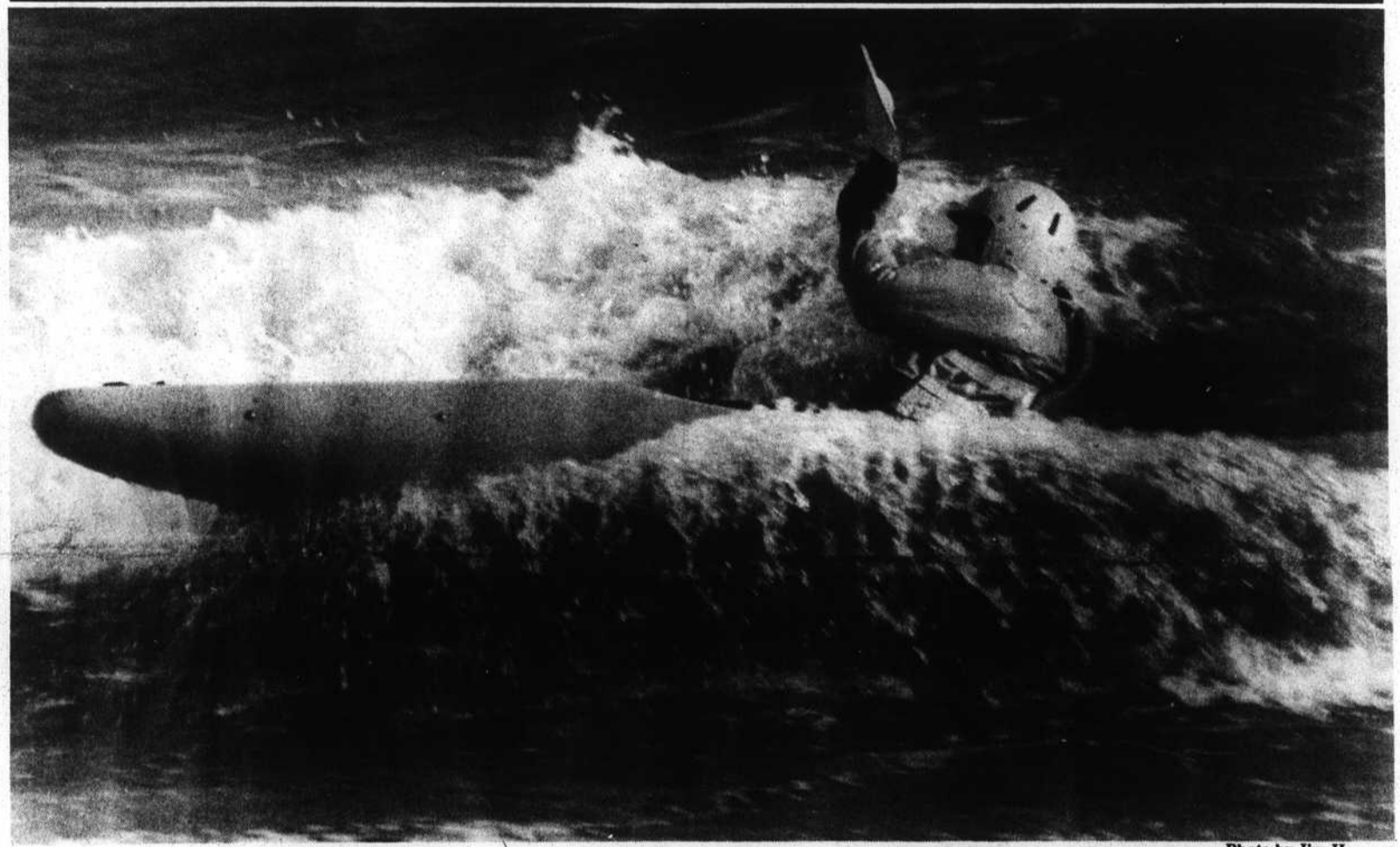
The school board plans to distribute a budget summary to parents and

educators prior to opening the floor for comments. A special meeting is set for Thursday, 1 p.m., for adoption.

By law, the school board must officially submit its budget request to commissioners by May 15. Superintendent Ralph Johnston unveiled the proposal last week and forwarded a preview copy to county finance director Lithia Hahn at school board member Bill Fairley's request.

School board chairman Donna Baxter of District 4 said a budget

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Don Gibson of Columbia, S. C., a frequent visitor to Oak Island, took advantage of strong southerly winds and high surf Saturday to practice his kayak maneuvers. More conventional surfers also enjoyed the big waves and warm water temperatures.

Baxter to quit reelection bid

By Terry Pope
County Editor

How do you sum up six years of service on the Brunswick County Board of Education?

It's not easy for Donna Baxter of Boiling Spring Lakes, who studied her accomplishments and failures before she decided Friday it was time for her to leave the board.

The chairman officially withdrew from the November race and will not seek re-election. Democrats must choose another candidate at least 90 days before the vote.

She will serve until her term expires in December. The Republicans have nominated Pat Purvis Brown of Ash for the District 4 seat.

"I've been thinking about this for the last nine months," said Ms. Baxter. "You have to ask yourself if you are really accomplishing what you'd like to do. You have to feel that you are helping the cause."

"I ran for the children, and I am not the issue. The issue is that we are still third from the bottom as a school system."

Another incumbent, Bill Fairley of Southport, also officially withdrew from the race on Friday. The Republican faced no opposition in last week's primary while Ms. Baxter's opponent, Liston Hawes of Ash, had died before his name could be removed from the ballot.

Fairley announced his intention to withdraw earlier this year, citing dissatisfaction with the board over its reversal on a differentiated (bonus) teacher pay plan and with it being too concerned with re-election when faced with two-year terms.

At least four of the five members will be replaced in the fall. Two other incumbents, Democrats Polly Russ of District 2 and Thurman Gause of District 1, were defeated in last Tuesday's primary. The only incumbent still seeking her seat is

See Baxter, page 6

Island seniors seek county aid

By Holly Edwards
Municipal Editor

The Brunswick County Board of Commissioners has been asked to purchase Bob's Pawn Shop property on Oak Island Drive, Long Beach, for future use as a senior citizens center.

The Senior Citizens Organization of Oak Island reportedly has a \$500 option to purchase the property.

Helen Cashwell's proposal calls for the county to purchase the pawn shop for \$300,000 and give the group a 99-year lease on it for \$1 per year. In exchange, the senior citizens would deed their four wooded lots with a current tax value of \$44,500 to the county.

The proposal also states that the organization would pay all taxes, insurance and maintenance for the building from craft shop proceeds.

Any remaining funds would be turned over to the county at the end of the year.

"We have seen our members become disinterested and, in many cases, isolated when faced with continuous disappointment over our inability to provide this much-needed center," said Cashwell.

Currently, the only facility available to the group is the Long Beach Recreation Center. Cashwell told

commissioners that many senior citizens on Oak Island are lonely and isolated simply because there's no place to go.

She said the Wilmington Department of Aging office advised the group to seek assistance from the county in obtaining the center.

The senior citizens organization president, Tom Cameron, said the plan was presented to the group at

See Seniors, page 8

Health Fair planned Sunday

By Cindy Aldridge
Feature Editor

The health community and area businesses will join this weekend for the annual Health Fair.

The fair, sponsored by Doshier Memorial Hospital, will be held Sunday, May 15, 1 to 4 p.m. on the grounds and inside the hospital on Howe Street.

The public is encouraged to attend.

"Participation by the exhibitors is incredible this year," said Margaret Minuth, new director of marketing at Doshier. The fair will include 62 exhibits. Most hospital departments and 12 physicians will be represented.

Numerous screenings will be offered to the public free of charge, including cholesterol, hearing, vision, blood pressure, glucose and body fat percentage.

The Doshier lab will offer a comprehensive health profile which includes 24 tests. There is a \$20 fee. Participants will receive blood work and are asked not to eat eight to 12 hours beforehand if they plan to have the tests.

Several organizations will be in attendance.

The Long Beach and the Southport police departments will offer identification cards for children. The card includes the child's ten

fingerprints and a Polaroid picture.

Ronald E. Hewett, D.A.R.E. officer, will pass out information about the drug abuse prevention program for school children.

The American Cancer Society, the American Lung Association and the American Heart Association will be represented. Special guests will include Larry and Vince, the crash dummies.

Tours of the operating and radiology departments will be offered. "Our goal is to get residents to tour the hospital and see what we offer," said Minuth.

Food will be available and music will be provided by WWQQ and Joann Boles, who will be present organ music in the dining room.

Maps of the hospital including the exhibit locations will be distributed to participants. Also available will be a pamphlet, "Doshier Direct", which includes a listing of services offered by Doshier and the physicians who are associated with the hospital.

"We hope people will use it as they do a phone book," explained Minuth.

There will be a dedication ceremony at 4 p.m. in the park across from the hospital's main entrance. The park will be dedicated in honor of Dr. Richard Corbett and a plaque at the Howe Street entrance will be dedicated in memory of Inez Harelson Shannon, RN.



Forecast

The extended forecast calls for partly cloudy skies Thursday, followed by fair skies on Friday and Saturday. Highs will be in the 80s, with lows ranging between 55 and 60.

The State Port Pilot

Pilot Line
THE TALKING NEWSPAPER

Weather updates are available on Pilot Line. Dial 457-5084, then extension 191.

Tide table

HIGH	THURSDAY, MAY 12	LOW
9:48 a.m.		3:51 a.m.
10:03 p.m.		3:50 p.m.
	FRIDAY, MAY 13	
10:23 a.m.		4:29 a.m.
10:38 p.m.		4:28 p.m.
	SATURDAY, MAY 14	
10:59 a.m.		5:07 a.m.
11:16 p.m.		5:08 p.m.
	SUNDAY, MAY 15	
11:41 a.m.		5:48 a.m.
11:59 p.m.		5:52 p.m.
	MONDAY, MAY 16	
12:30 p.m.		6:32 a.m.
	TUESDAY, MAY 17	
12:49 a.m.		7:22 a.m.
1:28 p.m.		7:41 p.m.
	WEDNESDAY, MAY 18	
1:44 a.m.		8:17 a.m.
2:31 p.m.		8:45 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; Yampson Beach, high -32, low -45; Lockwood Folly Inlet, high -22, low -8.