

EMERGENCY ROOM
ENTRANCE

Neighbors

Part four of a series on emergency care involves the work of the ER -- 1B

The State Port
PILOT

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SOUTHPORT, N.C.

50 CENTS

Sports

West Brunswick dominates selections for the all-county baseball dream team -- 1C

Our Town

Caswell will keep the same tax rate, while Yaupon may go up a half-cent -- Page 2

'M-I' zone passes

By Terry Pope
County Editor

County commissioners want to maintain zoning control over the Military Ocean Terminal Sunny Point depot should it ever close as an Army ammunition port.

A plan approved Monday will set in motion the process to reach that goal.

Sunny Point includes 5,000 acres north of Southport on the Cape Fear River and is the nation's largest ammunition seaport. It also has 3,000 acres of restrictive easements in a buffer zone where all building is prohibited.

It will take a joint planning effort by the county commissioners, zoning overlay study committee and the Brunswick County Planning Board to ensure all areas designated as M-I (military installations) are addressed in the county land use plan.

District 3 commissioner Leslie Collier of Long Beach said she doesn't want a battle over the territory here like what has developed in Myrtle Beach, S. C., upon the closing of a military base there. A private company is developing a theme park
See Zone passes, page 6



Father Robert Beasley of St. Philip's Episcopal Church officiated at a blessing of the fleet Sunday off the Southport city pier. Sponsored by the Cape

Fear Yacht Club, the blessing was generally offered to commercial fishing craft, power boats and even a canoe.

Photo by Jim Harper

Budget is presented

Southport: same rate, higher fees

By Richard Nubel
Municipal Editor

Southport's budget committee has submitted a \$6.445-million budget proposal for fiscal year 1995-96 calling for no increase in property taxes, but significant hikes in the cost of water, sewer and solid waste collection.

A \$5-per-vehicle auto registration fee will also be included in property tax billing this year. Residential customers will see no increase in electric costs for the moment, but the city's largest users of electricity will pay greater demand rates.

Here's what it will cost to live in the City of Southport in the year beginning 1995-96 if the budget proposal is adopted in its current form:

*Property taxes. The budget pro-

Of all city departments, the police department will see the greatest rise in funding in the coming fiscal year if the budget proposal is adopted in its present form

posal anticipates no increase in the city's 53-cent per \$100 tax rate. To keep the tax rate level, the budget
See Higher fees, page 8

Review continues

Long Beach: council trims proposed hike

By Richard Nubel
Municipal Editor

If town council stopped its budget deliberations now, the property tax rate in Long Beach for 1995-96 would be three cents higher than it is this year, or 39 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

But, town manager Jerry Walters said, council is not through with its fine-tuning of his budget proposal yet.

"We have not completed our review," Walters said. "I think, where we are right now, we are about three cents above this year's 36 cents. We still have fire and rescue to review and we still have the accommodations tax fund. And, of course, council may revisit some issues."

Earlier this month Walters presented a budget proposal for the year to begin July 1 which called for no increase in the town's current 36-cent

property tax rate and no increase in water rates or solid waste collection fees.

Meeting last week, however, council decided to abolish the solid waste collection fee by doing away with an enterprise -- money-making -- solid waste fund. The cost of solid waste collection and disposal was returned to the town's general fund, which derives just less than 47 percent of its revenues from property taxes.

The move to abolish the self-sus-
See Council, page 8



Forecast

Partly cloudy skies will prevail for the period of Thursday through Saturday with highs in the 80's and lows in the 70's.

Tide table

HIGH	THURSDAY, JUNE 8	LOW
3:42 a.m.		10:12 a.m.
4:36 p.m.		12:59 p.m.
	FRIDAY, JUNE 9	
4:45 a.m.		11:10 a.m.
5:37 p.m.		----- p.m.
	SATURDAY, JUNE 10	
5:47 a.m.		12:00 a.m.
6:36 p.m.		----- p.m.
	SUNDAY, JUNE 11	
6:48 a.m.		12:58 a.m.
7:33 p.m.		1:04 p.m.
	MONDAY, JUNE 12	
7:47 a.m.		1:53 a.m.
8:28 p.m.		1:58 p.m.
	TUESDAY, JUNE 13	
8:45 a.m.		2:47 a.m.
9:23 p.m.		2:52 p.m.
	WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14	
9:42 a.m.		3:39 a.m.
10:16 p.m.		3:45 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; Lockwood Folly, high -22, low -8.

Details to be worked out

Yaupon sewer plan includes golf course

By Richard Nubel
Municipal Editor

Yaupon Beach will look to the Oak Island Golf and Country Club golf course to solve the wastewater disposal problem which has plagued the town for nearly a year and has forced a major change in disposal methods.

Meeting Monday night, commissioners indicated they would pursue an overhaul of the town's wastewater disposal system to spray-irrigate the equivalent of 250,000 gallons per day of treated effluent on the golf course property. An additional 250,000-gallon-per-day disposal capacity will be retained at the town's rapid-infiltration basin beside the treatment plant on Fish Factory Road.

"We are going to go -- provided we can get proper contracts -- with the golf course as an alternative for effluent disposal," town clerk Nancy Wilson said Tues-

The decision clears the way for Yaupon Beach to receive state funds to expand treatment and disposal capacity to 500,000 gallons per day

day.

Wilson said town officials have had contact with golf course directors, who have expressed interest in receiving additional water to irrigate the golf course. The golf course can now only irrigate with about 60,000 gallons per day.

The Town of Yaupon Beach began operation of a 400,000-gallon-per-day treatment plant in 1992. Shortly
See Sewer, page 7

Pilot leads state

The Metro Award that recognizes best overall achievement was presented Friday to *The State Port Pilot* at the annual advertising conference of the North Carolina Press Association.

It is the second consecutive year the *Pilot* has won the award among weekly community newspapers in North Carolina. The award is determined by a point system that takes into account the 17 awards won by the newspaper's advertising
See *Pilot*, page 7

Manager cuts school budget

By Holly Edwards
Feature Editor

The budget recommendation offered by county manager Charles McGinnis threatens to derail progress made jointly thus far by the boards of education and county commissioners, says school board member Billy Carter.

McGinnis' proposal calls for a \$708,000 decrease in funding to the school system this year, an amount he says represents total savings to the school system if it implements all

See Manager, page 10

Public backs sheriff request for funding

By Terry Pope
County Editor

Interim county manager Charles McGinnis recommends a \$414,181 increase in the sheriff's budget for next year, but residents say that department deserves more.

It was a cut in \$112,456 for equipment -- vests and guns --

sheriff Ronald Hewett has requested from the county that fired up citizens last week. They spoke before the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners to let them know their priorities in a budget that already reflects a 12-cent tax hike.

"We're getting mixed signals," said District 3 county commissioner Leslie Collier of Long

Beach. "People are saying that they don't want that tax increase, but many are saying they want more for the sheriff's department."

Last year, the sheriff received \$2,088,436 in county tax dollars compared to a recommended \$2,502,617 in the 1995-96 budget. That increase
See Funding, page 6