



# The State Port PILOT

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**Neighbors**  
A trip to Russia with a clogging team is a trip he will never forget -- Page 1B

**Our Town**  
Long Beach honors a couple who helped get volunteer service started-- Page 2

## Count down begins

By Richard Nubel  
Municipal Editor

The final countdown has begun. In just a matter of hours the early birds of a crowd expected to grow to over 30,000 by parade time will start trooping into Southport for this city's annual summer spectacle.

The 1995 N. C. Fourth of July Festival is upon us.

"And, we're ready for them," festival president Don Hughes said Tuesday. "We're anticipating really good crowds and we know we have a lot of holiday entertainment to offer them."

Festival activities actually begin tonight (Wednesday) with a 7 p.m. performance of the Second Division Marine Band on the Garrison at Fort Johnston.

Festival headquarters will open at 10 a.m. Thursday, and opening ceremonies are planned Friday evening at festival headquarters on West Moore Street. Ceremonial flags -- including a replica of an American flag from 1795 and one from 1995 that flew over the U. S. Capitol -- will be raised. Southport historian Susan Carson will be keynote speaker.

The festival begins in earnest Saturday and that is when the bulk of the crowd that annually invades this small city is expected. That day will start with an early five-kilometer Freedom Run, continue with entertainment from the waterfront stage and mark the opening of the arts and crafts show

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To encourage everyone to observe and enjoy the Fourth of July, Joe Putnam and Margaret Minuth put up special Independence Day decorations at Doshier Memorial Hospital on Monday. Late in the day firefighters installed pennants and flags in downtown Southport and the way was clearly marked for a wonderful holiday.

*Everything has a price*

## Freebies get second look from county

By Terry Pope  
County Editor

Sometimes a gift isn't really a gift but is instead an expense county commissioners would rather do without.

Federal authorities who donated a boat to the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department didn't throw in an operating budget.

Such donations have prompted a new county ordinance that requires departments to get prior approval before accepting any gifts.

"I was just trying to cover anything that might impact our budget that we need to know about," said District 3 commissioner Leslie Collier of Long Beach.

Her motion to draft the ordinance

*'We're getting too many gifts that have hidden costs down the road.'*

Leslie Collier  
District 3 member

was approved unanimously before the board adopted a 1995-96 budget last week which raises the tax rate by ten cents, to 68.5 cents per \$100 of prop-

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## Mobile home park changes before board

By Terry Pope  
County Editor

A new mobile home park ordinance previously tabled by the county planning board has been sent to commissioners for adoption.

But it is missing two of the most controversial requirements -- deleted by the planning board last week. Planners had originally agreed to table the ordinance for 60 days but were ready to take action after just one month of review.

At its regular meeting Monday, July 3, the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners may hold a first reading and set a public hearing on the document. The commission meets at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room at the 911 center.

The draft has generated heated discussion at planning board meetings -- placing park owners against county planners and residents who say it is time some parks are forced to comply with stricter standards.

The revised version drops require-

ments for park owners to provide street lighting and buffer zones around their parks. It would also exempt expansion of existing parks from some of the new rules. The original version would have forced existing parks to comply with standards within a certain period.

Health board chairman Pat Newton, who owns the Boardwalk Mobile Home Park north of Southport, opposed the requirement for buffer zones, saying there are no adjacent neighbors for his park to help protect. He also objected to a requirement that park owners be responsible for pest control throughout the park.

That requirement has been changed

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### 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	LOW
<b>THURSDAY, JUNE 29</b>	
9:38 a.m.	3:38 a.m.
9:52 p.m.	3:38 p.m.
<b>FRIDAY, JUNE 30</b>	
10:14 a.m.	4:15 a.m.
10:26 p.m.	4:17 p.m.
<b>SATURDAY, JULY 1</b>	
10:51 a.m.	4:52 a.m.
11:01 p.m.	4:57 p.m.
<b>SUNDAY, JULY 2</b>	
11:30 a.m.	5:29 a.m.
11:39 p.m.	5:39 p.m.
<b>MONDAY, JULY 3</b>	
---- a.m.	6:09 a.m.
12:15 p.m.	6:27 p.m.
<b>TUESDAY, JULY 4</b>	
12:22 a.m.	6:52 a.m.
1:06 p.m.	7:21 p.m.
<b>WEDNESDAY, JULY 5</b>	
1:12 a.m.	7:42 a.m.
2:05 p.m.	8:22 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; Lockwood Folly, high -22, low -8.

## County, registrar must work together

# Finger being pointed over indexing system

By Terry Pope  
County Editor

With the help of fiber optics, county agencies are switching to one computer imaging system capable of carrying departments electronically into the 21st century.

But before county commissioners accepted the three-year lease agreement last week they had questions for computer systems manager Jerry Hewett.

They asked whether register of deeds Robert J. Robinson agreed with the plan. His office will be the pri-

*'With this person doing this thing, and that person doing another, that's not the way I look at it. I'm looking at the whole county.'*

Jerry Hewett  
Computer manager

mary user.

"I don't want to end up buying two systems when one can do what we need to do," said District 3 commis-

sioner Leslie Collier. She asked if commissioners would be forced to purchase a second system if the deeds

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## 'Smart Start' alive

By Terry Pope  
County Editor

A compromise reached by state legislators last week will keep alive the local Partnership for Children's effort to bring Smart Start to Brunswick County.

A month-long battle over funding for the public-private early childhood intervention program has ended in the State House with an agreement to

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## 17-acre lake is excluded

# Changes made to Bald Head Stage II

By Jim Harper  
Staff Writer

The Bald Head Island developer has informed village property owners he is abandoning the 17-acre lake in his revision of Stage II development plans.

A general mailing went out over the weekend in which Kent Mitchell, president of Bald Head Island Management, wrote, "It is my conclusion, after receiving the input from property owners, that the strong negative perception of the lake held by some property owners would be too difficult and time consuming to

overcome."

Ken Stewart, chief operating officer for the development, said Monday that a revised plan would likely be available for village council perusal by Friday and that the revision would then be forwarded to the Division of Coastal Management which is considering the Bald Head plan revision.

In the village council session on June 17 Stewart pointed out that the revised plan -- with or without the woodland lake -- would mean a net reduction in housing units for Stage II compared with the plan approved by state officials in 1987.

In that session the lake, proposed for the wooded area near the old Cape Fear lighthouse site, was criticized as a threat to the island's water supply and also as presenting a likely maintenance problem.

"My planning department is hard at work revising the development plan to meet or exceed all regulatory and zoning requirements while eliminating the 17-acre lake," Mitchell said in his letter.

"We are committed to proceeding with the revised plan, without the lake, and we hope that this accommodation shows our intent to be sensitive to property

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