## The chamber report

### By Karen Sphar-Hope **Executive Vice-President**

(This is a report of the Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce that is published weekly in The State Port Pilot.)

Well, another busy week at the chamber completed, and next week doesn't look like it is going to slow down either.

This past week we packaged up and gave all the editorial, business directory and ads for the 1996 Visitor & Lifestyle Guide to Lois and Jerry at Oak Island Press in Long Beach. Stephanna Tewey of Seaway Printing did an excellent job selling the ads in the guide. With her expert sales ability we are able to publish a first-class visitor and lifestyle guide for the area.

We mailed a grant application to the North Carolina Travel and Tourism Division. The grant was written on a marketing plan called "Operation Myrtle Beach Conversion." The plan includes familiarization tours, advertising and brochure distribution.

The object of the plan is to entice

the Myrtle Beach vacationer to cussed. It is up to you. beautiful downtown Southport as a day trip to shop and eat, then eventually convert them to weeklong vacationers. We attended the Southport Merchant Group meeting and they are excited about the project. We will know in December if we get the grant.

We also attended the "Brunswick County Growth Issue Meeting: Job Creation." It was a well-attended meeting held at the CP&L Visitors Center. These meetings are being held across the county on issues of concern for the growth of Brunswick County.

This is your -- every resident or property owner's -- chance to have input on the direction this county grows. Speak now; if you don't, the county will move in the direction of those that do and you will have lost your chance to give your opinion.

The last two meetings will be held Wednesday, October 25, in Waccamaw Community Building and November 1 at Town Creek Community Building from 7 to 9 p.m. The meetings will have a focus topic, but any issue will be dis-

Plans continue on the Christmasby-the-Sea Festival. This Thursday, at 5:30 p.m., Edna Crouch, festival chairperson, will hold a festival committee meeting at the chamber office on Long Beach Road, Southport. We will finalize the calendar, hear reports from the events, choose merchandise to sell and have a good time. Who says committee meetings have to be boring?

This weekend there are plenty of neat things to do. The Brunswick Concert and Theatrical Society will present the "Fall Food Fest" at the Centennial Center (8th and Lord streets) on Saturday, October 28, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. The cost is \$8 single or \$15 couple. Advance tickets can be purchased at the chamber. Proceeds will benefit the Centennial Building Fund.

On Sunday, October 29, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. the Southport-Oak Island Wildlife Rescue and Reprieve Shelter will hold a barbecue/yard sale/adopt-a-pet event at 3376 St. Charles Place, Southport (off Airport Road/Long Beach Road) Barbecue dinners will sell for \$4.50; pound containers will be available for \$5. Or think about taking home a loving pet for free.

Also this weekend, October 27-29, the Festival-by-the-Sea at Holden Beach will be held.



### **BOGEY'S** At The Beach Bar & Grill Saturday, Oct 28 The Sonny Boykin Band

**Halloween** Party **Cash Prizes** Dinner Patrons - No Cover



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