



**Sports**

Preston McGriff rebounds from an early season illness to play big once again -- 1C

The State Port

**PILOT**

VOLUME 65/ NUMBER 24

SOUTHPORT, N.C.

50 CENTS

**Neighbors**

Another man's trash is another man's energy at this new recycling facility -- 1B

**Our Town**

Two Brunswick Learning Center students will attend national session -- Page 2

**Lower rates?**

It's possible, according to city officials

By Richard Nubel  
Municipal Editor

What may start out as fodder for a committee's consumption Thursday night may wind up as a significant rate decrease for most Southport residential and commercial electric system customers by July of this year.

That bears repeating: City officials now believe rates can be overhauled to afford rate decreases to those who are not responsible for peak-demand purchases -- those made at times when the cost of electricity the city buys increases by 2000 percent.

Aldermen are scheduled to hear the rudiments of this rate realignment plan Thursday night from public services director Ed Honeycutt. He has asked the board of aldermen to form a committee to study the rate realignment with him. City manager Rob Gandy says that committee may be

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**Audit says city doing better job**

By Richard Nubel  
Municipal Editor

The health of Southport's general fund rebounded significantly in the fiscal year ended June, 1995, but the city's water and sewer and electric funds posted another year of losses, an independent audit of city financial statements delivered Friday indicates.

Aldermen are to formally receive the report of 1994-95 audited financial statements Thursday when the board meets in regular monthly session, beginning at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall.

In all, city manager Rob Gandy said 1994-95 was a year of progress. An overexpenditure in the electric fund was attributed to unpredictable winter weather, which prompted higher-than-expected demand electric purchases. Operating costs in that fund were contained.

While the city's water and sewer fund lost money, aldermen went into the year knowing it would. A political decision was made at the beginning of the budget year not to charge customers enough to offset cost of operation. The governing board reckoned it would increase prices over a

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Inmates from the New Hanover state correctional unit are at work again this week on a number of Caswell Beach public works projects. Besides repairing sand fence along the beachfront they will also mulch roadside plantings, clean up the beach access parking lot and work around Town Hall.

**Filing period closes**

By Terry Pope  
County Editor

Filing ended Monday with a brief flurry of activity, setting up contests for the register of deeds seat but leaving one school board candidate all alone in her race.

Southport resident Bob Quinn filed for one of two seats for the 14th District State House as a Republican can-

didate. Quinn and Republican Shirley Babson of Bolivia will face Democrat incumbents David Redwine of Ocean Isle Beach and Dewey Hill of Lake Waccamaw, who face a challenge from Joseph Carter of Supply, former Brunswick Community College president.

Redwine chose not to seek the 7th Congressional District seat held by longtime legislator Charlie Rose, who

is retiring. But 11 candidates are, including seven Democrats and four Republicans.

For Quinn, it is his first political race. He has studied financial planning and budgeting, zoning administration, planning practice and eco-

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**RECORD PRODUCTION**

**Brunswick Unit 2 down for refueling**

Unit 2 of the Brunswick nuclear plant has completed a record-setting cycle of operation in which the generating unit set a world record of 581 days of continuous operation and generated more electricity than any CP&L nuclear unit has ever generated in a single operating cycle.

The Brunswick plant operated continuously since it came back into service following the end of its last refueling outage on July 1, 1994. During that time the plant generated over 9.9 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity.

This is a record for any CP&L nuclear plant in an operating cycle between refueling. This amount of electricity would provide the electric needs of a city the size of Wilmington for about 13 years.

The 581 days of operating without a moment off-line breaks a worldwide industry record of 534 days for boiling water reactors.

Brunswick vice-president Bill Campbell attributed

the record generation and new continuous operating record to the quality of maintenance both during the last refueling outage and while the unit was on-line producing power, and to "the superior performance of those individuals operating the plant on a day-to-day basis."

"Keeping a large electric generating plant such as Brunswick in top shape and operating at this level takes a lot of people doing a lot of jobs the right way every day," Campbell said. "The challenge now is to perform a quality refueling outage so that when the unit comes back on line it will continue operating well and producing power for our customers."

The unit was brought off-line Friday, February 2, to begin a 39-day outage for refueling and maintenance, including the installation of a new turbine rotor, disassembly and inspection of the main generator and maintenance of many plant safety and operating systems.

**Long-range county plan has support**

By Terry Pope  
County Editor

The Brunswick County Long-Range Planning Committee's long-range action plan earned the full support of county commissioners Monday plus a promise to help weave as many of the items as possible into the 1996-97 county budget.

"This has been a countywide process," said District 3 commissioner Leslie Collier of Long Beach, "and I feel it's important to proceed with carrying it out."

She suggested that the board prioritize the lengthy list of 16 recommendations at its board retreat February 16-17 and prepare to fund the top items this year as agreed upon by the commission. Committee chairman David Sandifer of Holden Beach and county planning director Wade Horne

The plan presents ways the county should deal with growth over the next 20 years when the county's population is expected to more than double

have been invited to the retreat at Fort Caswell.

They led the historic presentation Monday as the commission formally received the action plan drafted on ways the county should deal with

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**Can health care break old habits?**

By Holly Edwards  
Feature Editor

If the study of community health care needs released last week by the Coastal Carolina Health Alliance indicates a major shift in the role of health care providers to preventive care, it also raises a complex question:

How can health care providers change behavior if people willfully continue to do the very things they know are killing them?

While the dangers of obesity are well publicized, a recent national survey indicates 74 percent of Americans are overweight. And, while the harmful effects of cigarette smoking are common knowledge, surveys indicate cigarette smoking is on the rise among

young people after a decade-long decline.

If we Americans are better educated than ever about how to take care of our health and continue to engage in self-destructive behaviors, what can the health care industry possibly do to help us?

"I think eventually we're going to get to a point in our society when if you knowingly haven't taken care of yourself and your lifestyle isn't healthy and you get sick, then you're going to have to pay for your health care right out of your pocket," declared Doshier Memorial Hospital administrator Edgar Haywood. "Economics are going to get people's at-

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**Forecast**

After the arctic temperatures this past weekend the mid 50's will seem like a 'heat wave'. That's what we can expect for Thursday through Saturday.

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A modest proposal? Perhaps. This billboard greeting near Winnabow pops the big question to Lisa. Apparently the message was well received, too, and just the answer the fiancee was looking for. Now how's that for outdoor advertising?