



Sports

South Brunswick's girls continue the march towards regular season title -- 1C

The State Port

PILOT

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Neighbors

The campaign trail passed through our city as William Bennett faced nation -- 1B

Our Town

Boiling Spring Lakes rescuers face another important date during March -- Page 2

Tessari cuts deal

Former resident facing 50 years, \$1.5 million fines

By Holly Edwards
Feature Editor

Former Carolina Karate operator Michael A. Tessari on Tuesday entered into agreement with the U. S. government under which he will plead guilty to charges of wire fraud and money laundering.

In the plea agreement Tessari, 37, acknowledges he may be sentenced to 50 years in prison and may be fined up to \$1.5 million. Tessari will remain in Pennsylvania state custody until he appears before a U. S. District Court judge for sentencing.

U. S. attorneys for the Eastern District of North Carolina and the Middle District of Pennsylvania simultaneously filed criminal information in those states Tuesday asserting Tessari, formerly of Boiling Spring Lakes, committed the offenses while engaged in a scheme in which over 100 investors were defrauded of an estimated \$6.7 million.

"The information filed today in North Carolina and Pennsylvania alleges that, beginning in the summer of 1994, Tessari engaged in a scheme to defraud investors in

See Tessari, page 11

Better ride for county bus drivers

By Holly Edwards
Feature Editor

Brunswick County school bus drivers will receive a 50-cent-per-hour raise and drivers with dual positions will receive a separate pay check for each position, following a Monday afternoon meeting of the county school board.

More than 60 bus drivers met with the board at Lincoln Primary School to voice concerns about recent pay cuts arising from changes in the way dual position bus drivers are paid.

In a tie-breaking decision board chairman Clara Carter voted for the pay increase, and the board voted 3-1 in favor of separate checks.

Board member Billy Carter voted against separate checks because, he said, complete salary information is

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Forecast

Warmer weather will prevail throughout the period of Thursday-Saturday. High temperatures are expected to reach near 70.

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FACING THE NATION



Photo by Jim Harper

William Bennett faced the nation from Indigo Plantation Sunday morning in anticipation of Tuesday's New Hampshire presidential primary. The former Republican cabinet member, author and manager of the Lamar Alexander campaign was interviewed with other campaign managers on the CBS-TV "Nation" program. More on the occasion in the Neighbors section.

Long Beach councilor

New policy suggested for council insurance

By Richard Nubel
Municipal Editor

Newly elected town councilor Frances Allen says insurance benefits Long Beach provides some of her fellow councilors are too costly.

In a February 14 letter to town clerk Pat Brunell, Allen said she hopes to fulfill a campaign promise by ending council insurance benefits which cost the town nearly \$26,000 per year now and could cost Long Beach up to \$45,000 annually.

At Allen's request, councilors will debate their insurance privileges at a rescheduled monthly meeting tonight (Wednesday).

"No other (area) municipality ... gives the very expensive and comprehensive coverage that Long Beach does," councilor Allen wrote. "This coverage adds up to approximately \$6,000 (per councilor) annually and

covers the entire family.

"When I campaigned for office, it was my promise that elected officials should not get this benefit."

Town finance officer Kathy Harvell said Monday the mayor and six councilors are offered family medical insurance, family dental coverage and combination life insurance with accidental death and dismemberment, which also provides dependent life insurance.

Four councilors -- Jeff Ensminger, See Insurance, page 7

OTHER AGENDA ITEMS, PAGE 2

Caswell, Yaupon

Water quality questions now filtering down

By Richard Nubel
Municipal Editor

If Yaupon Beach is to sell the Oak Island Golf and Country Club treated wastewater for spray-irrigation of its golf course, then Yaupon Beach should be held accountable for the quality of effluent, commissioners of neighboring Caswell Beach said Tuesday.

At the continuation of a meeting last recessed on February 9, Caswell Beach commissioners Marcia Whiting and Paul O'Connor raised suspicions about a portion of a Yaupon Beach contract to sell treated wastewater for reuse at the golf club. In that provision, the golf club agrees to indemnify Yaupon Beach against harm that may arise from delivery of treated wastewater plant effluent that does not meet specified quality standards.

"We, the Town of Caswell Beach, could end up with an environmental site remediation program the Town of Yaupon Beach would not have to support," commissioner O'Connor said.

"... the Town of Caswell Beach could end up with an environmental site remediation program the Town of Yaupon Beach would not have to support."

Paul O'Connor
Caswell commissioner

O'Connor explained he feared if poor quality effluent were delivered to the golf club and it were costly to clean, or if fines were substantial, the golf course could escape liability for
See Water, page 8

Leland zoning now on course

By Terry Pope
County Editor

County commissioners have cleared the way for an 850-acre golf course residential development at Leland.

The large tract owned by International Paper Co. will be rezoned from heavy manufacturing to SR-6000 (site-built residential), a classification which allows greater density of housing but doesn't allow mobile homes.

Leland residents made an emotional plea to commissioners at a public hearing Monday to open the land for residential use as proposed by applicant Buchannon Properties Inc. The firm wants to purchase the tract and turn it into a golf course community north of Lincoln Industrial Park and along Lanvale Road.

"For so many years, we've been the dumping ground in Leland," said Parkwood Estates resident and former county commissioner Ruben Sloan. "I'm here to tell you we're tired of being dumped on, and we're going to stand up for what is right."

Parkwood residents appeared in force to support the zoning change, which had been denied by the Brunswick County Planning Board

'When industry has a problem growing up with residential, I believe maybe industry has a problem with being policed a little bit.'

Suzanne Osborne

but appealed to the county commission. The tract abuts the Parkwood subdivision and property surrounding Leland Middle School.

Sloan said Leland council is doing a good job of cleaning up the town through zoning regulations and by making it a better place to live. He said Leland needs quality residential space, like that available in other areas.

But county planners saw the debate in a different light.

"We think the loss of any heavy
See Zoning, Page 5

Effort shouldn't go to waste

More trash today than ever before

By Terry Pope
County Editor

Despite strong waste reduction efforts by many counties and a ten-year goal to reduce solid waste by 40 percent by the year 2001, North Carolina is disposing of more garbage today than ever before.

Residents threw away more than 7.6 million tons of waste, an average of 1.08 tons for every person, the same rate as in 1991-92, according to preliminary figures from the state's 1994-95 annual facility

report.

That record amount of garbage has left the N. C. Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources wondering if recycling is really working.

"We're somewhat surprised by the increase because it occurred at a time when many waste reduction and diversion programs have expanded," said William Meyer, director of the N. C. Division of Solid Waste Management.

Brunswick County's contract with

Vedco Energy Corp. to sort out recyclables and to burn the refuse at a Fayetteville area incinerator isn't an easy solution to the growing garbage pile, warns Heather Sandner, county recycling coordinator.

The Vedco deal which began in January will accomplish a number of objectives, said Ms. Sandner.

It will provide an environmentally sound alternative to landfilling the household and commercial garbage, ensure 20-

See Waste, page 8

