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# PUD rules

Long Beach to hold workshop on change

By Richard Nubel  
Municipal Editor

A planning board proposal to amend the town's residential planned unit development (PUD) ordinance will be the subject of a council workshop tonight (Wednesday) at the Long Beach Recreation Center.

The workshop, to be attended by councilors and planning board members, will begin at 6 p.m. and is to last about one and a half hours.

When council was asked August 20 to set a public hearing date for the planning board's proposed amendments to the residential PUD ordinance, councilor Frances Allen balked at even scheduling the required hearing, saying council did not know enough about the proposal. She said the nine-page ordinance was "complex" and council's decisions about it would have "repercussions."

A public hearing is the last legally required step before council may act to amend a portion of the zoning ordinance.

Whatever the repercussions, they will be most immediately felt in the Long Beach extraterritorial zoning and subdivision jurisdiction (ETJ) -- most importantly at St. James Plantation.

The ordinance which has governed PUD development has always required PUDs to be of at least ten contiguous acres. Only one ten-acre tract exists within town limits and it is in a fragile area likely not suitable for development. Any PUD development to be governed by the Long Beach PUD ordinance will likely occur in the one-mile ETJ.

A residential PUD is a development designed to allow creative placement or clustering of housing units to provide more open space in that development. PUDs may be developed in any residential zoning district in Long Beach and in its ETJ. A master plan approved by council governs development of a PUD, but it is otherwise exempt from most other provisions of the town's subdivision and zoning ordinances.

Last week councilor Allen told the Pilot her greatest objection to the proposed PUD amendment was to a provision which allowed golf courses to be considered in a calculation  
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## ISLAND FESTIVAL



Photo by Jim Harper

Three parts Labor Day, two parts excellent weather and a dash of danger from a storm that never came was the recipe for a successful Labor Day holiday in the community. These youngsters were riding high while flying low through Middleton Park at the Oak Island Art Guild arts and crafts show on Saturday.

# Man falls from pier, lost

By Holly Edwards  
Feature Editor

A 28-year-old Leland man was missing and presumed dead Tuesday after falling off the Southport city pier Monday night.

William Mark Allen was attempting to do a hand-stand on the railing

at the end of the pier when he fell into the water, said witness Barry Allen of Wilmington, William Allen's cousin.

Allen reportedly held onto the pier and tried to return to shore, but was pulled away by the strong current.

"The next thing I know he was hollering 'help' and going back-

wards away from the pier," Barry Allen said.

While another witness called 911 from a pay phone at the Ship's Chandler Restaurant, Allen said he lost sight of his cousin.

Southport officers and members of the U. S. Coast Guard searched the  
See Victim, page 6

# Mining impacted County drops a 'bombshell' in ordinance

By Terry Pope  
County Editor

A new countywide explosives ordinance which took effect mid-night Tuesday bans all types of detonations in the county, including blasts at underground rock quarries.

The Brunswick County Board of Commissioners dropped a bomb Tuesday in quick passage of the explosives ban aimed at protecting the underground Castle Hayne aquifer from destruction and the possible formation of sinkholes.

In passing the measure, commissioners failed to say the new law is aimed at Martin Marietta Aggregates Inc., which plans to mine for limestone on acreage just north of Southport. A similar explosives ban challenged in court earlier this year by Martin Marietta was struck down by a Superior Court judge, but the issue is still pending

'No person or corporation shall fire, detonate, blast, explode or charge any explosives within the County of Brunswick.'

before the N. C. Court of Appeals. The newer version drafted by county attorney Huey Marshall doesn't address the aquifer, mining or mining companies. It is an outright ban on all blasting within the  
See Bombshell, page 6

# Bald Head suit before council

By Jim Harper  
Staff Writer

Bald Head Island Village Council members were briefed Tuesday on the recent suit against the village and against mayor Tom Bradshaw -- the second suit against council filed this summer -- but deferred action on how to defend the matter pending a recommendation from the village attorney.

The council and Bradshaw, personally, were sued in mid-August over alleged failure to pay up in a scheme to gain a favorable ruling from the Coastal Resources Commission on a request to install beach groins.

Bradshaw said the council will await a recommendation from Southport attorney Bill Fairley before asking counsel to go forward in the case. Regarding his personal defense, Bradshaw said he would also await Fairley's recommendation.

Among matters the council dealt with Tuesday in the open portion of their session was a review of emergency procedures in the event of a severe weather threat.

"The council will decide whether to turn off the electricity," Bradshaw said, "and also when to evacuate -- in consultation with the transportation franchise holder," Bald Head Island Management.

Bradshaw said he hopes for a "full-blown discussion" on emergency procedures in the September 21 council session, and said discussion of solid waste disposal, including participation in the "blue bag" program, is expected then.



## Forecast

Another hurricane seems to loom on the horizon, making the weather slightly unpredictable. We can however count on a chance of showers and thunderstorms with highs each day in the mid 80's.

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# Fran poses threat to southeast coast

A hurricane watch is expected to be issued for the Southport-Oak Island area today as Category 3 Hurricane Fran makes her way towards the southeastern United States coast.

At 2 a.m. today, the National Weather Service predicted there was a six-to-ten-percent probability Fran would strike within 75 miles of Myrtle Beach or Wilmington from 2 p.m. Thursday through 2 p.m. Friday. Probability of a strike by Saturday near Myrtle Beach or Wilmington ranged from 13 to 18 percent.

Fran's center at 5 a.m. Wednesday was reported about 540 miles southeast of Charleston, SC, the storm packing maxi-

mum sustained winds of 115 miles per hour and moving northwestward at 12 miles per hour. Further intensification is expected today.

The National Weather Service Tuesday issued hurricane warnings for a portion of the southeastern United States ranging northward to Little River Inlet -- a watch area expected to extend farther to the north as this day progresses.

Hurricane Fran is the third tropical cyclone of the still-early season to menace the Southport-Oak Island area.

The eye of Hurricane Bertha, with its 85-mph winds on either side, passed  
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