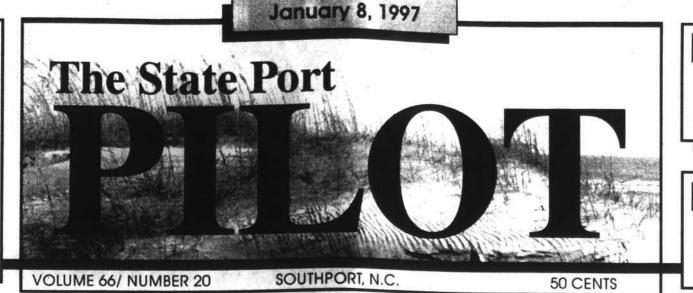
Sports

Waccamaw 2A Conference play begins, with Cougs in action Tuesday night -- 1C



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Fishermen n ating maiming foul nets or li

License opposed

Pier, charter fishermen may be charged fee

By Terry Pope County Editor

Fishermen opposed to a recommended saltwater licensing plan caught a big wave of support from county commissioners on Monday.

Under the proposal by the state Fisheries Moratorium Steering Committee, persons who fish on charter boats and on public piers would need to purchase a state fishing license. The committee fine-tuned its recommendations last week and plans to ask state legislators for a three-tier licensing system that would not allow pier and charter boat owners to purchase a blanket license to cover all their customers

"It would benefit other counties maybe, but Brunswick County borders on South Carolina," said JoAnn Bellamy Simmons, chairman of the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners. "And in South Carolina, they do not have this type of license requirement. The question is whether it would push our business away."

Commissioners voted 4-1 for a resolution asking state legislators not to adopt the licensing requirement. The committee is recommending sweeping changes in the regulation and management of North Carolina's fishing industry to keep better tabs on the volume of fish being caught along

While recreational anglers who use piers and charter boats won't like the proposal, others argue those fishermen are given an unfair advantage and that a blanket saltwater license for such businesses would make it difficult to keep data on the fish that are actually being caught. It appears legislators are prepared to adopt some type of saltwater licensing requirement for individuals during the 1997

See License, page 6



Dean Adams shoveled ice aboard the Cap'n Boo at her yacht basin moorings before she departed Monday evening for another grouper fishing session. Adams said he devised the simplest possible mechanism to ice his boats: "It won't clog up, and the only motor to break down is me."

Southport benefits

Electric load management a bright idea

Municipal Editor

Southport electric customers have ordered approximately 1,300 load management switches for their water heaters and heating and cooling systems since the city announced last June a new rate structure which would reward with lower bills those who opted to help Southport control electric load.

To date, over 60 percent of all Southport residential electric customers have applied for some form of load management, thereby reducing See Bright, page 7

Load managément switches allow the city to utilize a radio signal to temporarily interrupt electric flow to the most power-hungry home appliances

Tract annexation on board agenda

Municipal Editor

Will the would-be developer of a 131-acre tract adjacent to Southport meet aldermen's demand to petition for annexation as a condition of receiving the one city service it has re-

City fathers, presumably, will find out Thursday night when the board of aldermen meets in regular monthly session beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Oleander Development Company, a firm that listed a Florida address when petitioning the city planning board in November, proposes to de-See Agenda, page 7

Once a resolution of annexation is adopted, the owner begins paying city taxes and the city must provide all services to the annexed area within a year

Rabid raccoon is found in city

By Holly Edwards Feature Editor

Rabies has officially arrived in Southport and poses a serious threat to domestic animals and the public, city animal control officer Charles Drew said Tuesday.

"This could turn into a very serious health hazard," Drew warned. "Everyone needs to have their pets vaccinated immediately and please don't let them run loose."

See Raccoon, page 7

Church 'adopts' refugees

Bosnian family finds a home

By Holly Edwards Feature Editor

Before war broke out five years ago in the former Yugoslavia, the Beslagic family enjoyed an upper-middle-class lifestyle in Banja Luka, a cosmopolitan city characterized by tree-lined avenues, verdant parks, cafes, museums and ornate churches and

mosques. Today, the Beslagics are a family of refugees living at Fiddler's Creek Apartments in Southport.

Although they say they deeply miss their friends, family and home, they are grateful to be alive, and to live in

St. Philip's Episcopal Church "adopted" the Bosnian family and helped members get to the United States, find an apartment and employment, and obtain furniture and cloth-

Husein Beslagic is working for Maritime Landscapers, Sabiha Beslagic is working at Ship's Chandler Restaurant, their 16-year-old daughter Amra is enrolled at South Brunswick High School and their 20year-old daughter Amela is a student at Brunswick Community College.

Although Mr. and Mrs. Beslagic speak little English, Amra and Amela are fluent because they have taken nearly ten years of English at school. The young women appear healthy

and laugh easily, but the effects of the

war become apparent as they recall their ordeal.

Amra suffers anxiety attacks in which her heart rate soars to over 200 beats per minute. Mr. Beslagic lost

over 40 pounds during three years of two sons in the war and her husband forced labor, and several family members suffered unspeakable horrors at

the hands of the Serbians. One of Mrs. Beslagic's sisters lost was sent to a concentration camp where he was tortured and nearly died. Thanks to pressure from the See Family, page 6



By Holly Edwards Feature Editor

A plan to spend \$7.9 million in state bond money to construct a new elementary school and additional classrooms at overcrowded schools will be presented for approval by the Brunswick County Board of Education at its next monthly meeting Monday, January 13, 6:30 p.m., at Bolivia Elementary School.

Assistant superintendent for school operations Clarence Willie will present the proposal.

"I'm going to ask for their approval

of the projects, and then we can go forward with a timeline and other details," Willie said.

A consultant told the school board last month that the system's most urgent facility needs include a new elementary school, a new middle school, ten additional classrooms at Bolivia Elementary and 11 more classrooms at South Brunswick Middle. The price tag to complete all of these projects, however, was esti-

mated to total \$20 million. Willie said he will recommend construction of a new elementary school

See Schools, page 6



The Beslagics, (from left) Amra, Husein and Amela, were forced from their home in Bosnia by Serbian soldiers and are living in Southport as refugees from the war. St. Philip's Episcopal Church "adopted" the family through a refugee service in New York City. Amela displays the Bosnian flag while Mr. Beslagic holds flags of the United States and North Carolina.

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