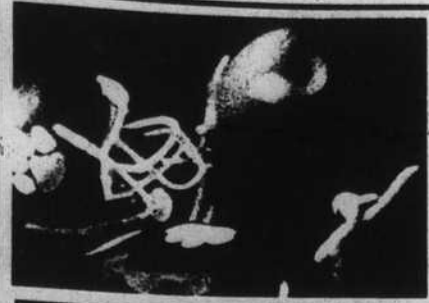


The State Port

PILOT

VOLUME 67/ NUMBER 8 SOUTHPORT, N.C. 50 CENTS



Sports

Trojans and Scorps remain undefeated, but Cougars may be hottest team -- IC

Library notice: Young and down on the games and... Yaupon... have sew... ty revised in stud... ts to paci... age 2

SBSD will hire manager

By Richard Nubel News Editor

Offer tendered. Offer accepted. Commissioners were expected to make it official this morning, naming Woodrow O. (Woody) Wilson, of Long Beach, the first manager of the Southeast Brunswick Sanitary District.

District chairman James W. (Bubba) Smith Monday said Wilson's salary as the first-ever SBSB manager had not been set, but would be "somewhere around" \$50,000.

Wilson comes to the district just as it prepares to begin breaking ground for the 500,000-gallon-per-day wastewater treatment plant, collection and disposal system SBSB was founded to build in 1989. He leaves the staff of the Town of Long Beach, where he has served as assistant town manager since June 9. Long Beach this week began advertising for a new assistant town manager.

Wilson says he will begin work at the district on October 31.

"I think the opportunity with Southeast Brunswick Sanitary District is just fantastic," Wilson said at Long Beach Town Hall this week. "The opportunity comes just as they are getting started on new construction."

Wilson said the approach by SBSB commissioners looking for their first manager was a surprise to him. He. See Manager, page 9

SCHOOLS

Purchase of tract approved

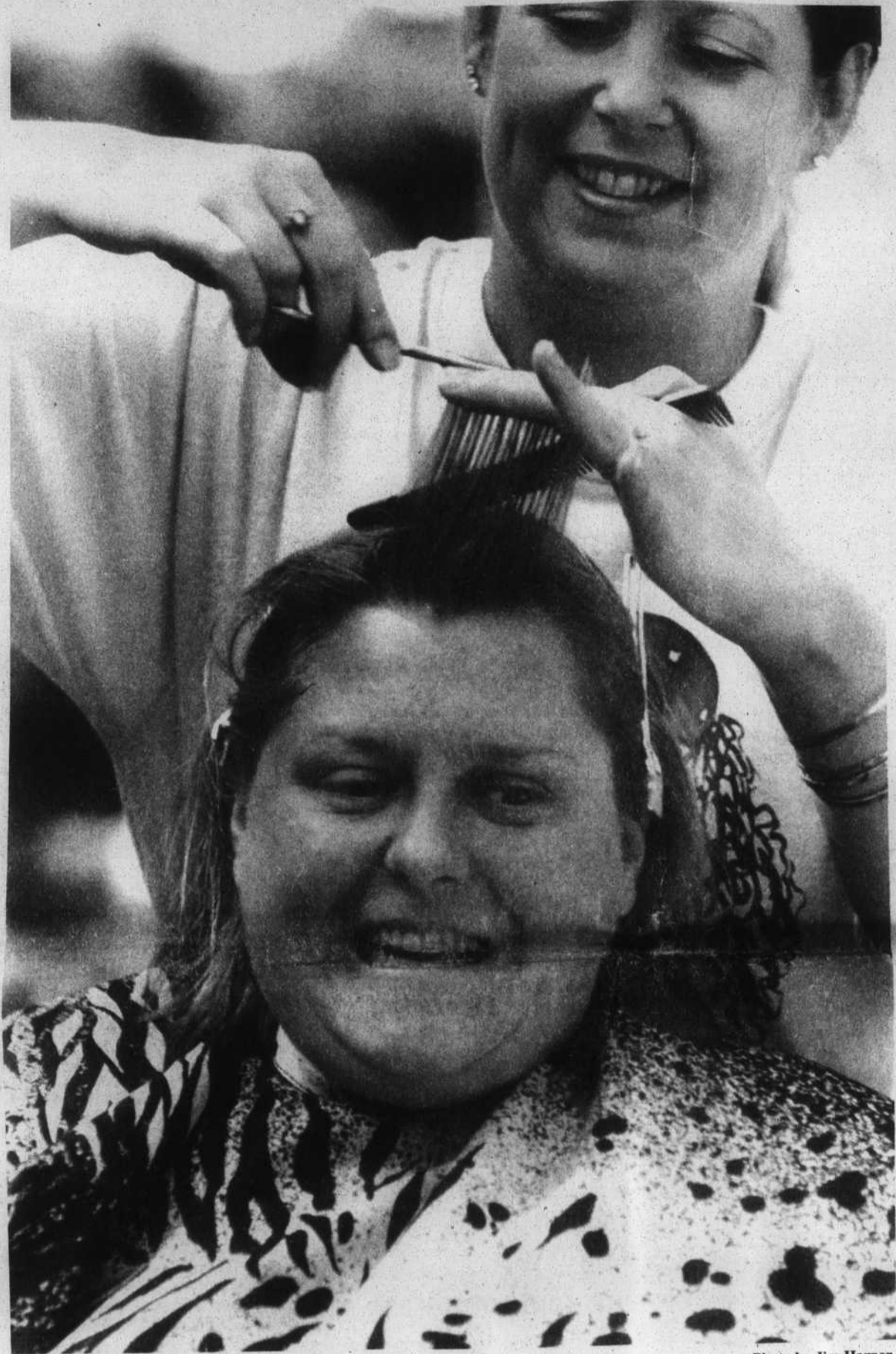
By Holly Edwards Feature Editor

The Brunswick County school board moved forward Monday night on three major construction projects totaling more than \$13 million.

Assistant superintendent of operations Clarence Willie reported that school officials are in the final stage of purchasing a 19.5-acre tract at Winding River Plantation for a new elementary school. The site is located approximately 500 feet from Highway 211 and is surrounded by Zion Hill Road and the Winding River Plantation golf course and development.

"We're just tightening all the screws and nailing down the details," Willie said. "We're getting ready to buy the land in the next few weeks."

School board members voted to purchase the property two months ago for \$150,000. Willie said school officials will meet with the Winding River Plantation development firm, Bluegreen Corporation, this week to decide what rate the school system See Purchase, page 11



Community hairdressers took "just a little off the top" of 73 heads in Franklin Square Sunday in a fundraiser for breast cancer research. Carolyn Hewett, one of the organizers, said nearly \$1,500 contributed by men, women and children will be forwarded to the City of Hope research center.

Photo by Jim Harper

Graves to be rededicated

Blacks had important role during Civil War

By Holly Edwards Feature Editor

Matthew Miller said he immediately recognized the importance of his discovery when, while doing research at the Southport library, he found the names of two black Union soldiers buried at John Smith Cemetery.

Documentation of black Union soldiers is rare, he said, and it's even more rare to find them buried in a small-town cemetery.

"Most black soldiers were buried at the National Cemetery in Washington," he said. "This is the first record of black soldiers buried in a small town like this I've ever found."

The long-time Civil War buff said he decided to share his discovery so that others would recognize the importance of black soldiers in the Civil War.

"As soon as I found them, I decided to try to organize a rededication of their graves," Miller said. "A lot of

people don't realize there were blacks fighting in the Civil War side by side with whites."

By rededicating the graves of these forgotten men -- Abraham Galloway and Abram Blount -- Miller said he hopes to promote a clearer understanding of this chapter in American

history and to enhance racial understanding in Southport.

As many as 100 Civil War reenactors will likely participate in the rededication ceremony of the soldiers' graves in early February, in conjunction with Black History See Civil War, page 9

Southport-Oak Island EMS, operations proposal signals new cooperation

By Richard Nubel News Editor

Need for increased emergency medical service (EMS) presence in this portion of the county may spur a cooperative county and municipal effort to build a combination county emergency medical services substation and municipal emergency operations center (EOC) in the Southport-Oak Island area.

Long Beach mayor Joan Altman last week issued invitations to county commissioners and Southport-Oak Island mayors to attend an October 28 meeting devoted to discussing a combined county-municipal EMS-EOC building.

Altman this week said the two needs -- a county EMS facility and a municipal EOC building -- can be met under one roof, she and others believe. In her letter of invitation to county commissioners' chairman JoAnn Simmons, Altman said the benefits of a combined EMS-EOC structure potentially could include a more efficient use of existing re-

Southport-Oak Island has increased its dependence on Brunswick County for response to routine calls

sources:

"We know the county has budgeted money for an EMS substation in the Southport-Oak Island area, which is appropriate, given the population here now and the projections we have for the future," Altman said Tuesday. "The Oak Island towns and Southport have talked about establishing a central EOC as a gathering point in the event of a storm or other emergency."

While Southport-Oak Island officials have representatives in both during an emergency, there is also a

See Cooperation, page 9

Yaupon, Caswell

Towns unsure about levying occupancy tax

By Richard Nubel News Editor

What will the neighbors say? That seemed to be the unspoken question Monday night as Yaupon Beach commissioners gave some preliminary thought to raising the town's three-percent occupancy tax.

Caswell Beach commissioners addressed the occupancy tax question Thursday and were unable to reach consensus.

Should Yaupon Beach raise its tax on short-term rentals if Long Beach and Caswell Beach do not? What if Long Beach doesn't and Caswell Beach does?

"If Caswell Beach is not going to impose it and Long Beach is definitely not going to do it... If we're the only ones who end up doing it, it's a nightmare for people like you in the (cottage) rental business," mayor Dot Kelly told commissioner

'If we're the only ones who end up doing it, it's a nightmare for people like you in the (cottage) rental business.'

Dot Kelly Yaupon Beach mayor

Dick Marshall, owner of a real estate and property management company, and other commissioners.

"Are we going to lose (vacation) See Towns, page 11

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Southport accepts SPA deal

By Richard Nubel News Editor

Not wishing to forfeit even a modest amount of control over Small Boat Harbor operations, city aldermen Thursday reluctantly ratified a management agreement with the N. C. State Ports Authority which will allow Southport officials to oversee some marina activities, but not receive pay for the

effort. "At first glance, I would say if they want to make us dance without paying us alimony, I would tell them to take their marina and shove it up their state port," said an angry alderman Bill Delaney. He and other aldermen have contended the city more than earned the monthly fee Southport has received since the late 1980s for monitoring activities of contract marina opera-

tors on SPA's behalf. The action, for the time being, ends a dispute between the city and SPA board members over city compensation for its efforts on behalf of the state agency. Under terms of the agreement aldermen authorized, the city will not receive its \$1,500 monthly payment from SPA after June, 1998. From that time forward, SPA will instead place that See SPA deal, page 6