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The State Port

# PILOT

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## Municipal elections are scheduled Tuesday

By Richard Nubel  
News Editor

### Candidate profiles, opinions inside

Voters of Southport-Oak Island, Bald Head Island and Boiling Spring Lakes will be among those in 18 municipalities in Brunswick County who will go to the polls Tuesday to choose leaders for at least the next two years, and in most instances four years.

In addition, voters of Southeast Brunswick Sanitary District will be asked to send three of their commissioners back to the governing board Tuesday and voters of Doshier Memorial Hospital tax district will be asked to reelect three hospital trustees.

Boiling Spring Lakes voters will not only elect city

officials, they will vote FOR or AGAINST the "Board of commissioners pursuing a central water system for Boiling Spring Lakes." That referendum question will be non-binding, but should prove an indication of whether or not city residents are willing to support a public water delivery system.

Polls in all jurisdictions Tuesday will open at 6:30 a.m. and will remain open until 7:30 p.m. Deadline for casting absentee ballots is Friday and all absentee ballots must be cast at the Brunswick County Board of

Elections office at the government center near Bolivia.

The most highly contested races in the Southport-Oak Island area are poised to take place in Long Beach and in Boiling Spring Lakes.

While Long Beach mayor Joan Altman has no opponent in her bid for election to a third term of office, there will be 12 candidates seeking election to six seats on Long Beach Town Council. Six of those candidates are, or have been, affiliated with Long Beach United For Progress, a registered political action committee which

has opposed Altman and those councilors who have agreed with her during her six-year tenure. Six of those candidates are either incumbents or supporters of mayor Altman and like-minded councilors.

This is the last time all six councilors will stand for election at one time in Long Beach. Four-year, staggered terms of office will begin with this election. The candidates winning the three highest vote totals will be seated for four-year terms. Candidates receiving the fourth, fifth and sixth highest vote totals will be seated for two-year terms. In 1999, three commissioners will be elected to four-year terms.

In Boiling Spring Lakes, voters may chose from See Election, page 5

## Developer sues town for breach

By Richard Nubel  
News Editor

Yaupon Beach is in breach of a contract to treat up to 50,000 gallons of wastewater generated by a housing development to be located on the Intracoastal Waterway, new developers of the property formerly owned by Standard Products Inc. say.

Point Associates, a limited liability company which now owns the former Standard parcel, filed suit Monday, asking the Superior Court in Brunswick County to return to it more than 11 acres of land Standard had conveyed to Yaupon Beach in exchange for the town's agreement to treat wastewater generated by its planned housing development.

Yaupon Beach intended to spray the 11 acres of land with treated effluent from its adjacent wastewater treatment plant on Fish Factory Road. The town has never obtained permits from state regulatory agencies to do this, however; it now has consulting engineers examining other wastewater disposal means.

If the court refuses to order the land reconveyed to Point Associates, the firm has asked to be compensated for its loss in cash.

Point Associates has asked in the alternative for more than \$10,000 for the breach of contract by Yaupon Beach that it alleges.

Or, Point has also asked the court to award it more than \$10,000 as compensation for the town's unjust enrichment from the property.

In stating its claim, Point Associates points to a January 7, 1993, agreement between Standard Products Inc. and the Town of Yaupon Beach.

See Lawsuit, page 5

## Nat Parker loses fight to cancer

By Holly Edwards  
Feature Editor

Brunswick County civil rights leader Nathaniel Parker Sr. lost his ten-month battle with cancer Saturday. He was 44 years old.

The two-term president of the Brunswick County chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was remembered by friends and family as a man who cared deeply about others.

"I hope he will be remembered as a loving person who was always willing to help someone in need," said 19-year-old daughter Monica Parker.

Parker also is survived by his wife See Parker, page 6



Repair work continues this week on the approach wings leading underneath the Oak Island bridge. Periodic maintenance is required on the wooden structures which ensure that watercraft passing beneath the span do not touch structural parts of the bridge.

Photo by Jim Harper

## Electric deregulation

# Who bears the load?

By Richard Nubel  
News Editor

Who will pay for the municipal debt acquired to build nuclear reactors in North Carolina, if customers flee municipal power agencies when the electric distribution industry is deregulated?

That question stands as the single greatest obstacle to deregulation of the electric industry in North Carolina, and elsewhere, delegates to the N. C. League of Municipalities convention last week were told.

The question is an important one for the City of Southport especially. Southport is one of 32 cities which in the 1970s and 1980s formed N. C. Eastern Municipal Power Agency, a consortium which bought ownership interests in nuclear power-generating facilities operated by Carolina Power and Light Co.

Two power agencies in North Carolina -- formed by 51 cities -- assumed more than \$6 billion in debt to finance nuclear power plant See Electric, page 6

"I got the impression from the Duke Power representative that it was not for uniform stranded cost. I did not hear that from CP&L."

Rob Gandy  
Southport manager

## Doshier hospital State okays beds appeal settlement

By Holly Edwards  
Feature Editor

An appeal filed against the state's decision to grant Doshier Memorial Hospital certification to operate 60 skilled nursing beds was settled Monday.

Doshier administrator Edgar Haywood told hospital trustees Monday night the hospital will be ready to begin construction of the \$4-million nursing home in approximately six months and will have a functional facility by fall 1999.

In a settlement approved by the Certificate of Need Section of the state Department of Human Resources, Doshier agrees to give Magnolia Health Care ten of the 60 skilled nursing beds it See Appeal, page 5

Doshier will construct a facility housing 50 skilled nursing beds and 14 home for the aged beds

## Long Beach Oceanfront values erode

By Richard Nubel  
News Editor

Property on the oceanfront in Long Beach is now valued at about half of what it would be if erosion had not taken its toll over the years, town council was told last week.

The value of Long Beach oceanfront property -- exclusive of any structures or other improvements -- is approximately \$28 million, said Dara Royal, a member of the town's erosion control committee and a member of the Long Beach Preservation Trust advisory committee.

Royal recently undertook an assessment of the impact of erosion on the beachfront in which it was determined only 26 percent of oceanfront land is now valued at between 70 and 100 percent of its potential or original value. Another 53 percent has lost half its value, either because it could not be improved if structures now on it were destroyed, or because no structure can be placed on the land due to setback regulations

and septic requirements. "You can see that we have already lost about 50 percent of what the original tax base value was," Royal told council.

The 26 percent of oceanfront property in Long Beach that has maintained all, or nearly all, of its original value accounts for some 11,000 linear feet of sandy soil between 79th Street and the point at King's Lynn. Its total value is estimated at \$15.4 million, or about 44 percent of the entire oceanfront, or first row, value.

The 53 percent of all oceanfront property which has lost 50 percent of its value due to erosion accounts for approximately 22,000 linear feet of beachfront. Total value of this property is just over \$12.3 million, or 36 percent of the total oceanfront valuation.

Another 14 percent of the oceanfront at Long Beach is either town-owned like the cabana property, in commercial use like the two piers, or in a non-traditional oceanfront use,

See Erosion, page 6