



Sports

Aficionados of former Cougar star Carl Parker cheer his pro career -- 1C

Smith I... rust... chhead 1B  
 has estab...  
 preservin...  
 Brunsw... airport  
 books won't fly, auditor  
 says in annual report -- 2

SOUTHPORT LIBRARY  
 31 1-2-31-99  
 W. MOORE STREET  
 SOUTHPORT NC 28461  
 \*\*\*\*\*CAR-RT SORP\*\*0001  
 8P

Southern area

## Year-round school plan considered

By Holly Edwards  
 Feature Editor

Southport Elementary, Bolivia Elementary and South Brunswick Middle schools are seeking public input on a plan to implement a year-round school calendar for 1998-99. Public meetings will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, January 8, at Bolivia Elementary; Wednesday, January 21, at South Brunswick Middle; and Thursday, January 22, at Southport Elementary.

A year-round calendar implemented this past year at Belville Elementary, Lincoln Primary and Leland Middle schools shortens summer vacation to five weeks but includes a three-week break after each nine-week instructional session.

While Southport Elementary and Bolivia Elementary school principals said they support the year-round school plan, South Brunswick Middle principal Richard Lawson said he would like to first assess student performance at the schools that have implemented the plan.

"I'm not against it, I just want to wait and see how the schools in the north do before we try it," he said.

Lawson said he also fears the new calendar could diminish progress made at the middle school in improved student performance and attendance and reduced discipline problems.

'I'm not against it, I just want to wait and see how the schools in the north do before we try it.'

Dr. Richard Lawson  
 South Brunswick Middle

"Everything's working fine, we feel like we've been really successful, and I don't want to mess with that," he said.

On the other hand, Southport Elementary principal Carolyn Williams said she believes a year-round calendar will enhance performance of both students and teachers.

"Without question, the year-round calendar is better for children, for staff and for families," she said.

"When you go nine weeks and then get off for three weeks, at the end of the first nine weeks you can do what you usually do in summer school. It reduces the risk that children who are slower to learn will fall behind

See Schools, page 7

Aldermen to decide

## City's electric rate could rise

By Richard Nubel  
 News Editor

Residential electric customers of the City of Southport can expect to pay from \$8 to \$14 a month more for each 1,000 kilowatts of electricity, if the board of aldermen adopts a new rate structure Thursday.

Commercial electric customers can expect to pay \$7 to \$22 a month more for each 1,000 Kw.

When Southport officials last year adopted a new electric rate structure to reward customer participation in load management, the idea was so innovative the city admitted rates might later have to be adjusted after

it had some experience tracking revenues.

Now, facing a \$100,000 electric fund operating deficit, staff Thursday night will propose to the board of aldermen residential electric rate hikes of between 11.6 and 13 percent for different levels of load management. Commercial electric rate hikes of between 6.8 and 13.4 percent will be proposed.

While rates themselves will be increased, the program of rewarding customers who participate in load management will be continued. In fact, city officials say, customers who opt to participate in load man

See Electric, page 7



Photo by Jim Harper

Certainly the oldest, and most durable, playthings in the community are the oyster-shell "rocks" at the foot of the Garrison, where generations of children have learned how to jump, climb and get wet and sandy at only moderate risk to life and limb. This youngster enjoyed his visit to the rocks last week.

## Toland replaces Hicks as Lakes commissioner

By Richard Nubel  
 News Editor

A mayor and board of commissioners which one month ago seemed incapable of agreeing on anything could find nothing to argue about Tuesday night.

Three commissioners quickly and unanimously agreed to Boiling Spring Lakes mayor Tom Tully's nomination of Paul Toland to replace commissioner Ray Hicks, whose resignation letter was read aloud at the meeting's outset.

Minutes later, Tully's three nominations to the city planning board were quickly confirmed.

Hicks said the demands of his job forced him to resign and said he had enjoyed working on the city's

behalf. His letter of resignation set Tuesday as his final day in office.

Toland did not receive the oath of office after his confirmation Tuesday, as city clerk Barbara Cumbee said she did not know whose name to place on appropriate documentation. She said she could swear Toland to office as soon as today (Wednesday).

Mayor Tully said he nominated Toland because of his showing as a candidate in the November election. Toland garnered 185 votes, running third to commissioners Charles Schneiders and Jack Redmond, who captured the two seats to be decided.

"I have given this quite a bit of thought in the last three days and I feel there is no other way I can deal

See Lakes, page 6

## Filing period is open

Although the elections of November 3, 1998, seem cons away, the period in which candidates may file notice of their intent to seek election to county and statewide offices on that day began Monday.

Those wishing to seek election to office have until noon February 2 to file notice with the county board of elections and to pay filing fees.

North Carolina voters will elect a U. S. senator this year -- the office now held by Sen. Lauch Faircloth -- and all seats in the U. S. House of Representatives will be decided at election this year.

In Brunswick County, voters will elect two members of the state House of Representatives and one member of the state Senate. Two county commissioners will be elected, as will two members of the school board.

Elections for sheriff and clerk of Superior Court will be held here.

All elections in 1998 will be partisan political elections. Party primary elections have been scheduled May 5. A candidate will bear his party's standard if he captures a 40-percent plurality of the party vote or more. Should it be warranted, a runoff party primary election will be conducted June

See Filing, page 6

## Board approves vague 'Work First' proposal

By Richard Nubel  
 News Editor

Noting they had little to lose and almost no recourse, Brunswick County commissioners Monday accepted "skeptical" department of social services director Jamie Orrock's invitation to adopt a Brunswick County Work First plan for submission to state officials next month.

Orrock said he completed the plan in five ses-

sions with a committee that commissioners appointed. A Work First plan has been required of all 100 counties as part of Gov. Jim Hunt's commitment to send welfare recipients to work.

But, Orrock said, the plan to be submitted represents only an outline of programs with no budget. He said he did not commit Brunswick County to provide any service not paid for by the state, and was hesitant to assign any costs, fearing the

See Work First, page 5

What's inside

- Opinion 4
- Police report 8
- Obituaries 11
- Master Gardener 2B
- Calendar 5B
- Church 6B
- TV schedule 4C
- Classifieds 7C

Waterway near the bridge

## Marina community plan is launched

By Richard Nubel  
 News Editor

Within a month, Point Associates LLC will submit development plans for a marina and combination residential and commercial

planned unit development on the Intracoastal Waterway site of the old Standard Products menhaden processing plant.

The gate for the new community, which will feature between 24 and 48 dwelling units, will be at the terminus of the existing Fish Factory

Road. The new development will have 75 to 80 boat slips in a marina on the Intracoastal Waterway, said Ed Burnett, a Point Associates principal.

Burnett unveiled a sketch development Monday morning before the monthly meeting

of Southeast Brunswick Sanitary District Board of Commissioners. The district will supply some of the wastewater management needs of this development and other adjacent development projects being undertaken by

See Marina, page 7