



# Around Brunswick

## All but three towns have approved deal

**BOLIVIA** -- Fifteen of 18 towns in the county have accepted a countywide solid waste plan approved by the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners last month.

County attorney Huey Marshall said cooperation is needed by all towns for the six-year, \$30-million contract with Waste Industries Inc. can be effective.

Caswell Beach has a meeting for April 9 and expects to cover the topic. Long Beach met on the issue April 7. Southport officials will meet April 16 to vote on the matter.

The plan will provide 90-gallon carts to every home in the county and once-a-week pickup, even inside towns that currently contract for garbage collection.

Waste Industries will haul the garbage to a regional landfill in Sampson County. Brunswick County will begin charging tipping fees as of July 1.

## Signs approved for Town Creek zone

**TOWN CREEK** -- Brunswick County commissioners voted Monday to allocate up to \$3,500 for no-wake zone signs along a portion of Town Creek and any other area where signs are needed.

District 5 commissioner Bill Sue of Leland said the community that requested signs at Town Creek Colony has been waiting long enough to slow boaters in areas where children swim.

County attorney Huey Marshall said it has been learned that some materials may be salvaged from the county sign shop so permanent signs can be erected rather than floating devices.

The N.C. Marine Fisheries is responsible for maintaining the signs. Vicki Steele of the Town Creek community has lobbied the Marine Fisheries and commissioners to help slow boat traffic in the area following a near-fatal boating mishap involving children swimmers.

## Marine Corps will form new league

**LONG BEACH** -- The organization of the Brunswick detachment of the Marine Corps League will be held at the VFW Hall, 103 SE 50th Street, Long Beach, at 7 p.m. on April 14.

The league is composed of all former, retired and active Marines who have served at least 90 days and have an honorable discharge. The league is active in community affairs, promotes youth activities, assists Marines in veteran affairs and perpetuates the traditions and spirit of the Corps at any time.

Temporary commandant and officers will be selected pending official charter from national headquarters. Sgt. Fielder, officer in charge of the Wilmington Marine recruiting office, will also be in atten-



The 'Community of Promise' pledge has participating volunteers hoping to reach an additional two million children at risk by the year 2000, matching them with caring adults as tutors and mentors. This Southport Elementary volunteer helps a student on the computer.

## A healthy start

### Volunteers play a valuable role in 'Community of Promise'

By Terry Pope  
County Editor

Brunswick County has accepted a grant to hire a coordinator of volunteer services as part of its commitment to become a "Community of Promise."

The program is designed to steer young people at risk on the right path to a successful life. District 3 county commissioner Leslie Collier of Long Beach was instrumental in gaining approval from fellow board members. She said the volunteer services to reach children are in place but a coordinator can link the different agencies.

"The entities came together and agreed a

neutral person could do this job through the Cooperative Extension Service," said Ms. Collier.

It is the mission of America's Promise to ensure young persons at risk receive five resources as follows:

- An ongoing relationship with a caring adult as a mentor, tutor or coach.
- Access to safe places and structured activities during non-school hours to learn and to grow.
- A healthy start.
- A marketable skill through effective education.
- An opportunity to give back through community service.

According to the resolution approved by commissioners, the goal is to connect two million additional young people most in need of the services by the year 2000. It states that for every dollar spent on volunteer services, the county realizes nine dollars of benefit.

The grant will hire a coordinator as a county-paid position for the next three years. The office will be at the Cooperative Extension department at the county government center near Bolivia.

Volunteer agencies such as Communities in Schools and the Brunswick Literacy Council already tutor students, but the program hopes to target additional children at risk.

## Research facility holds dedication

**HOLDEN BEACH** -- A ceremony and celebration creating the Drew Griffin Environmental Research Facility at Holden Beach was held Tuesday, April 7.

The facility will be located off Ocean Boulevard West along Jordan Boulevard.

The owners of Holden Beach Enterprises Inc, Mr. and Mrs. Jim D. Griffin Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Virgil

Roberts and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph O. Taylor, have donated 29.29 acres to provide a location for environmental and water quality research by scientists and students at N.C. State University and the North Carolina Sea Grant program.

## Stores to get tested by teen smokers

**BOLIVIA** -- State agents will use teen-agers going undercover to try to buy cigarettes at 9,000 stores targeted over the next 18 months. But Brunswick County convenience

store owners say it will be business as usual when the sting operation starts.

The aim is to catch merchants who sell cigarettes to young people. North Carolina became the first state this year to sign a landmark contract with the federal government to enforce new regulations banning underage tobacco sales.

The new federal regulations require states to reduce underage cigarette sales over the next few years or face the loss of federal substance abuse treatment funds. The \$600,000 contract with North

Carolina is part of a \$34 million national initiative to cut teen-age smoking.

## Legislators ranked for effectiveness

**OCEAN ISLE BEACH** -- State Rep. David Redwine (D-Ocean Isle Beach) improved from 22nd to the 18th most effective State House member (out of 120) according to a report released by the N.C. Center for Public Policy Research.

Redwine has reached as high as 11th overall in 1993. He represents

the two-member 14th District. The rankings are released every two years.

State Senator R. C. Soles Jr. (D-Tabor City) also improved in his ranking, from 12th out of 50 senators in 1995 to 10th in 1997.

Dewey Hill (D-Lake Waccamaw), the other representative for the 14th District, climbed from 79th in 1995 to 59th for 1997.

Thomas Wright (D-New Hanover County) who represents the 98th District, which includes most of the minority communities in northern Brunswick County, climbed from 83rd in 1995 to 58th in 1997.

Republicans have a slim 61-59 majority in the State House while Democrats have a 30-20 majority in the Senate.

"The Center's rankings help citizens understand the way the legislature works -- who's up, who's down and who's new in town," said Ran Coble, executive director of the Center for Public Policy.

## Jobless rate drops to 7.5 percent

**BOLIVIA** -- Unemployment in Brunswick County fell from 8.4 percent in January to 7.5 percent in February, according to the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina.

The rate rose in 43 counties, fell in 41 and remained unchanged in 16 during the period.

According to the figures, 2,270 persons were actively seeking jobs in February compared to 2,530 persons in January. The jobless rate in the Wilmington metropolitan area stood at 5.6 percent, down from 5.7 percent.

Swain County, at 25.3 percent, has the highest rate while Orange County, at 1.3 percent, has the lowest.

## Permits down for first two months

**BOLIVIA** -- For the first two months of this year, the number of single-family residential building permits were up by 9 percent, 81 versus 74 last year.

However, total permits were down 25 percent during the same period. Last year, 1,519 permits were issued by the Brunswick County Central Permitting Department, but only 1,214 were issued for January and February of this year, reported county planner Don Eggert.

For the month of February, 47 single-family permits were issued for \$3.59 million in new home construction. Also, 91 mobile home permits were issued.

Permits for 6 multi-family units valued at \$577,872 were also issued in February. Total construction value in February was \$4.12 million.

For the year, the county has issued permits for 81 single-family homes with a value of \$7.14 million and a total construction value of \$7.7 million.

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4-8	Lee Bryant	4-12	Mark Albert
4-8	Milton Domler	4-12	Megan Register
4-8	Jennifer Johnson	4-12	Anne Schindo
4-8	Joseph Schrom	4-13	Joyce Bellerose
4-9	Chris Alred	4-13	Susan Grace
4-9	Bee Meilhedde	4-13	Leo Hewett
4-9	Gail Porterfield	4-13	Elizabeth List
4-9	April Sweat	4-13	Sylvia McLeod
4-9	Peggy Williams	4-13	Morgan Quinn
4-10	Wayne Harris	4-14	Robert Clough
4-10	Cary McEntire	4-14	Kendall Coltrane
4-10	Tom Till	4-14	Elizabeth Crow
4-10	Leo Welez	4-14	Pat Evans
4-11	Renee Fincher	4-14	Marc Johnson
4-11	Gene Haik	4-14	Jean Malvey

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