

# THE STATE PORT PILOT

Phone 910-457-4568/Fax 910-457-9427/e-mail pilot@southport.net

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**Chili cook-off**  
Food, fun and festivity  
**Marathon game**  
South in 13-inning thriller  
**Adult business**  
Lakes ordinance seeks



Photo by Jim Harper

Horn (horn) n. 1. a sound-making device operated by blowing air, or occasionally squeezing a bulb, or pushing a button. 2. a butting device found on a variety of barnyard animals, sometimes even on small goats in petting zoos at Robert Ruark Chili Cookoffs.

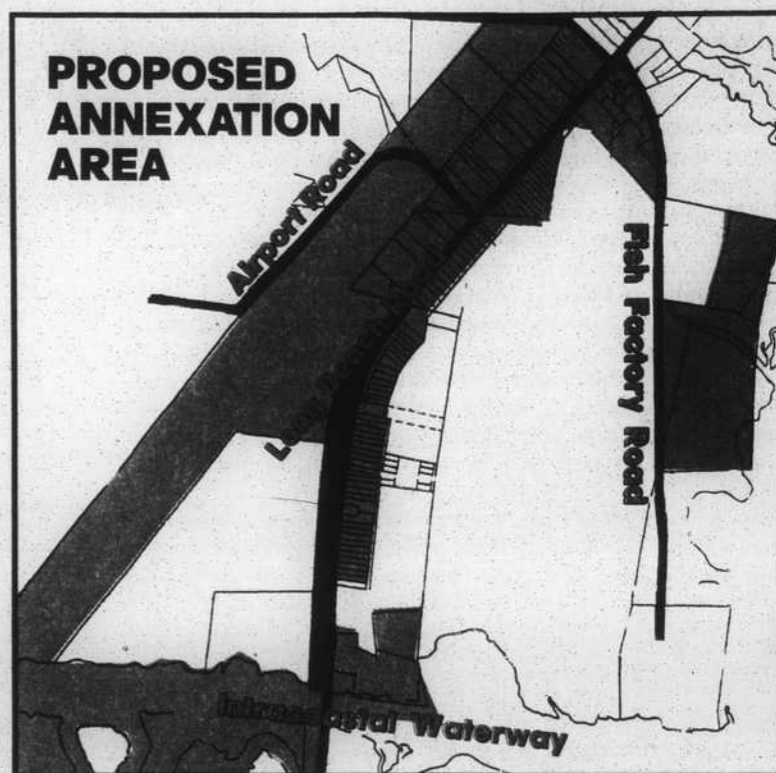
## Yaupon looks across waterway 'Economics' reason for annexation plan

By Richard Nubel  
Municipal Editor

Seeking greater control of their wastewater treatment plant property and their town's economic destiny, Yaupon Beach commissioners have adopted a resolution of intent to annex 483 acres abutting Long Beach Road and Fish Factory Road on the mainland.

Annexation is the process by which municipalities increase their size, taking land adjacent to their boundaries.

The proposed Yaupon Beach annexation across the Elizabeth River marsh into the heart of an area now governed by Southeast Brunswick Sanitary District will be the subject of a public hearing at 7 p.m. June 23 at the Oak Island Moose Lodge on Long Beach Road. Under terms of annexation law, town clerk Nancy Wilson said, Yaupon Beach commissioners will be free to adopt an ordinance of See Annexation, page 7



## McIntyre, corps Feds address beach erosion

By Richard Nubel  
Municipal Editor

While federal officials cannot guarantee funds for construction will follow, one short-term erosion control measure and one major nourishment project are on the drawing board for Oak Island.

Seventh District U. S. Congressman Mike McIntyre and U. S. Army Corps of Engineers officials last week touted beach erosion control measures and a planned investigation of poor water quality in the Lockwood Folly River basin in two "town hall" meetings at Ocean Isle Beach and Holden Beach.

The corps has moved into the "design phase" of a proposed \$5-million project. See Erosion, page 8

## Long Beach Trash answer Tuesday

By Richard Nubel  
Municipal Editor

Town council has set next Tuesday as the day it will decide whether or not Long Beach will sign-on to Brunswick County's six-year, \$30-million plan to provide roadside refuse collection county-wide.

That decision, and a decision to resell a leaf vacuum once thought critical to the town's management of yard debris, came at a special council meeting April 7. At that session, councilor Kevin Bell called the \$82,000 leaf vacuum the town has ordered through the state procurement service a "white elephant" and said other towns using similar equipment find it in the shop more often than not. Only councilors Mike Oxford and J. K. Somers opposed his motion to resell the machine before delivery is made. A manufacturer's rep has told the town there will be other buyers for the machine which has been on order for nine months.

After swapping information with a representative of Waste Industries Inc., council said Brunswick County will have the town's decision on refuse collection next See Trash, page 9

## Grant will fund study of northern area sewer

By Terry Pope  
County Editor

A state grant will help begin planning and development for the county's 20-square-mile regional sewer system in the northern area.

The N. C. Rural Economic Development Center has awarded the county a \$125,000 grant that will be used to contract with W. K. Dickson and Co., a Charlotte firm which will develop the county's 2011 Facilities Plan and weigh the pro-

ject's environmental impact on the community.

The study area includes Navassa, Leland and the North Brunswick Sanitary District. The project is being coordinated with Landmark Development Corp., developer of the Magnolia Greens golf course subdivision. Landmark has paid for sewer line extensions to the golf course project off U. S. 17 south of Leland.

Dickson will have 105 days to draft the plan and will be paid

\$170,000. Last week, Brunswick County commissioners awarded consultant Skip Green and Associates \$1,000 for obtaining the grant and also transferred \$46,000 from the county's contingency fund to be applied toward the project.

Commissioners have set aside \$1,590,600 for the Northeast Brunswick Wastewater Facility project in revenues from the county general fund and other sources. But commissioners say the system, once

See Grant, page 6

## Rescue funding levels stay same

By Terry Pope  
County Editor

Local volunteer fire and rescue squads have been told to expect the same level of funding for the 1998-99 fiscal year as was received last year while the county continues to work towards a permanent funding solution.

Recommendation from a study committee to the Brunswick County Board of Commissioners is to fund the fire and rescue squads at the proposed level for a two-year period, recognizing that it will take that time to develop and put in place a permanent financing source -- such as special fire and rescue tax districts or estab-

See Rescue, page 6

## School goals are something to shoot for

By Holly Edwards  
Feature Editor

Hundreds of goals and strategies to improve virtually every aspect of the Brunswick County school system -- from classroom instruction to transportation -- are included in a report submitted by superintendent of schools Marion Wise during the annual board of education retreat.

Board members applauded Wise's ambitious

programs and pointed to rising test scores as an indication that the new administrative team is doing its job.

"He certainly has been aggressive in his attempt to revamp and upgrade the school system and to meet the requirements the state has set forth," said board member Pat Brown. "He and his team are doing the best they can. Even if they can't achieve all the goals, the goals provide a vision for Brunswick County."

Board vice-chairman Joyce Hewett said the

school system is "moving in the right direction," and board member Bud Thorsen said Wise's goals will set a "high standard" for everyone in the school system to follow.

But, despite improvements in student performance, board members listed several lingering concerns and problems, such as overcrowded classrooms, low teacher and student morale, poor communication among students and teachers and chronic discipline problems.

"Until we get parents that will stand behind

the teachers and provide discipline at home, we're going to have discipline problems at school," Thorsen said. "The school system isn't there to raise kids, but more and more time is being spent on guidance and discipline and it's taking time away from instruction."

Thorsen added that students sometimes get suspended from school deliberately so they can have a "mini-vacation" at home.

"A lot of kids do something stupid just to See Schools, page 9

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