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### Like a good neighbor

## Villas request asking move to new town

By Richard Nubel  
Staff Writer

Deannexation. The word may not be in the dictionary, but that's what the Oak Island Beach Villas Owners Association Board of Directors has asked of the Town of Caswell Beach: Deannexation, as prelude to the 172-unit condominium complex joining the Town of Oak Island.

"It appears that Caswell Beach has no interest in becoming a part of the new Town of Oak Island, North Carolina; therefore, we intend to actively engage to be deannexed from Caswell Beach and annexed to Oak Island," OIBV board members wrote Caswell Beach mayor Joe O'Brien on July 10.

A copy of that letter was sent to Oak Island co-mayors Dot Kelly and Joan Altman, as well as the area's delegation to the General Assembly: Rep. E. David Redwine, Rep. Dewey Hill and Sen. R. C. Soles.

According to the letter signed by OIBV Owners Association president Denny Franklin and six other directors, the villas board wanted Caswell Beach to join the consolidation to create the Town of Oak Island early on. Only days after the October 1, 1998, announcement by Long Beach and Yaupon Beach governing boards that they would explore consolidation, the OIBV owners board called on Caswell Beach to join in that effort.

"At our quarterly meeting of October 9, 1998, the Board of Directors of the Oak Island Beach Villas Owners Association approved a resolution urging that 'Caswell Beach be a part of any action to create a single governmental entity on Oak Island to include the towns of Caswell Beach, Yaupon and Long Beach,'" the directors' letter to O'Brien says. The owners association membership approved that resolution at an October 10 meeting unanimously,

**'I think if Jerry (Walters, Oak Island town manager) puts a pencil to it in terms of cost realities, we're not going to get a free ride.'**

**Herbert Smith  
OIBV board member**

with one abstention. The lone abstainer was Caswell Beach commissioner Marcia Whiting, an OIBV resident.

Members of the owners association believe the new Town of Oak Island is better positioned to provide essential services than the smaller Town of Caswell Beach, minutes of the association owners' 1998 annual members meeting indicate.

"This resolution recognizes the continuous need for critical and emergency services provided by the Town of Yaupon Beach," the minutes say.

Oak Island Beach Villas is served by former the Yaupon Beach — now Oak Island — wastewater management system. Caswell Beach commissioners in the early 1990s allowed villas residents to seek this service from Yaupon Beach, but cautioned villas owners they would have to participate in capitalizing any Caswell Beach wastewater management system that was built and would be required to convert to its service if a Caswell Beach system were built.

Oak Island Beach Villas owners pay the Town of Oak Island an additional 25-percent surcharge as out-of-town users of the wastewater management system. But, the owners association minutes suggest members are just as concerned about services other than wastewater management.

"Much discussion followed, with the consensus being that the villas would greatly benefit by such a consolidation, with the idea that services such as fire protection, water and sewer treatment and emergency medical services could better be provided by the larger municipality," the association meeting minutes of October 10, 1998, say. Association minutes also indicate members believe the Caswell Beach area would be better positioned to receive funding for beach nourishment projects if it were part of the larger Town of Oak Island.

See Villas, page 7

### AIR BRUSH



This hooded figure is Shane Kingery, member of a three-man crew from Southern Corrosion finishing up the paint job on the Southport water tower on Sunday. In addition to painting, the workers made some welding repairs to the tank.

Photo by Jim Harper

## Brunswick Learning Center New apparel code fits school to a tee

By Diana D'Abruzzo  
Staff Writer

Students at Brunswick Learning Center won't have to worry about the peer pressure of wearing brand-name clothing in school. The only name allowed on their T-shirts this year will be "Brunswick Learning Center."

A uniform of sorts for the alternative school was approved by the Brunswick County Board of Education at its meeting Monday. Under the new dress code, each student will be issued three T-shirts at no cost. Additional shirts can be purchased, if needed. Pants and shorts — or skirts for females — will have to be either khaki or jeans.

And if the student doesn't want to wear the school-spirited T-shirt, the only alternative will be a solid color shirt with no logos or pictures on it, said principal Bob Rhyne.

"We feel very strongly as a faculty that this will assist us in trying to maintain behavior on campus," Rhyne said. "It will also take away that competitive spirit as far as being jealous or concerned that someone has a Tommy Hilfiger shirt and I only have a Roses tee."

While schools are allowed to draw up their own dress code without board approval, Brunswick Learning Center's dress code called for a uniform and, therefore, needed the school system's stamp.

See Dress code, page 8

## Williamson's named school gets \$500,000

By Diana D'Abruzzo  
Staff Writer

Virginia Williamson's namesake — the new elementary school at Winding River Plantation, which opens next week — will be the recipient of \$100,000 a year in spending money for the next five years.

The donation, made by Odell and Virginia Williamson, was accepted by the Brunswick County Board of Education at its regular meeting on Monday.

"I think it's a wonderful gesture on the part of the Williamsons," said Marion Wise, Brunswick County schools superintendent. "The money cer-

See Williamson, page 12

## School bond vote planned in September

By Terry Pope  
Staff Writer

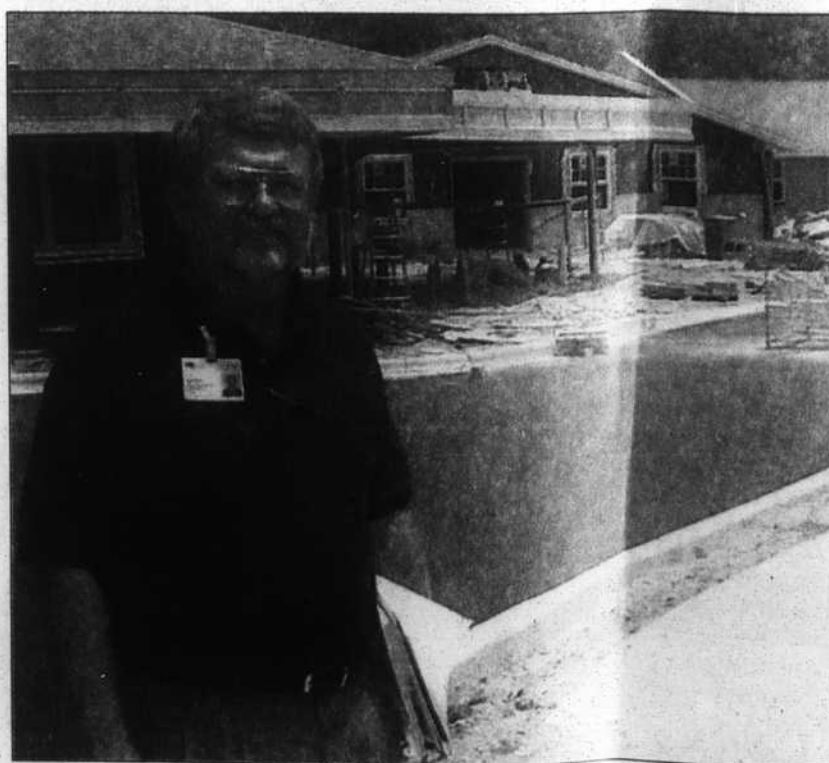
County officials will pursue a September 25 public referendum that may award the sale of \$83.5 million in bonds for schools and \$14 million for Brunswick Community College.

The Brunswick County Board of Commissioners voted Monday to ask the Local Government Commission for approval to hold the referendum on the last Saturday in September. The LGC will review the request at its meeting August 3.

"I was scared of it to begin with," said county commission chairman JoAnn Bellamy Simmons. "I'm still a little frightened of it."

What's frightening is the amount of funds being sought at one time. But the Brunswick

See Votes, page 7



Doshier administrator Edgar Haywood surveys progress on new nursing facility.

Photo by Jim Harper

## Subject to public okay Doshier receives state approval for tax levy

By Richard Nubel  
Staff Writer

The N. C. General Assembly Tuesday swung open the door to public financing under the best possible terms for Doshier Memorial Hospital.

"With its position as a 'public hospital' secured, Doshier trustees can move now to build public support for a major expansion of hospital facilities and services.

House Bill 279 was ratified Tuesday, "modernizing" the laws that govern operation of Doshier, the state's only remaining township hospital. The measure also will allow Doshier hospital tax district to continue and to levy a property tax of up to four cents per \$100 valuation — the key to publicly

financing the hospital's master facility plan.

Hospital administrator Edgar Haywood said Tuesday that Doshier trustees sought public hospital status and the continued taxing authority in recognition of Doshier's need to grow.

"All of a sudden you turn around and you see an operating room that was basically designed when Dr. Z (Zukoski) came to town and was our only surgeon," Haywood said. "Now we've got ten surgeons cutting in there.

"Or, you look at the emergency room five to six months out of the year," he said. "We've got six examining bays and 30 people waiting to use them. We just need more space."

Last year, consulting architects Wilkerson and

See Doshier, page 14