



### Group Sax Performs

The Brunswick Arts Council will kick off its fourth annual membership drive with a concert by the Group Sax jazz band at 7:30 p.m. May 2 at the Moose Lodge, Long Beach Road, Southport. Admission is free and wine and cheese will be served. Memberships in the arts council will be taken and renewed.

## Romance Writers Offering Seminar

In this romantic springtime of the year the newly-organized Lower Cape Fear Chapter of Romance Writers of America is sponsoring a seminar for writers of all kinds.

Brunswick Community College will be the site of the daylong event from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m. Saturday, May 16. The \$29 registration fee will include a catered lunch.

Featured speakers will include Brunswick County writer Hugh Zachary of Yaupon Beach, Julie Tetel of Durham, Susan Warren of Long Beach and Laurie Rosin of Sarasota, Fla.

Zachary, whose wife Elizabeth was instrumental in the organization of the Romance Writers chapter, is the author of more than 150 published novels and one cookbook, *The Beachcomber's Handbook of Seafood Cookery*.



ZACHARY

Historical romance writer Tetel has seven novels to her credit, published by Harlequin Historicals, Warner/Popular Library and Fawcett Regency. One of these, *Swept Away*, won the *Romantic Times* Reviewer's Choice award for best exotic romance in 1990.

Rosin, an editor for Book Creations in Sarasota, will provide an editorial viewpoint. An independent producer of books for such publishers as Bantam, Berkley, Dell, and Pocket Books, she regularly edits three paperback historical series that have become bestsellers.

"What Sells?" is the question Susan Warren will answer for participants. The Owner of Books 'N' Stuff bookstore in Long Beach, she can offer practical advice on marketing books.

For reservations or more information about the seminar, call Brunswick Community College's Continuing Education Department, 754-6922 or 457-6329, or call Liz at 278-5984.

### SECOND VOTE COMING IN MAY

## Dues Issue Splits United Way Board

BY MARJORIE MEGIVERN

A tie vote on the question of paying dues to United Way of America will mean a second vote next month by the Cape Fear Area United Way board of directors. The board split 9-9 Thursday on a motion to resume payment of dues to the parent organization, riddled with the scandal of mismanagement by its former director William Aramony.

Aramony resigned in February after allegations were made that he spent United Way money lavishly on personal travel, paid questionable consultants' fees and created spin-offs that are still under investigation, many under the leadership of his family members. A recent report of an investigation of Aramony's management practices confirmed about \$360,000 in inappropriate expenditures that Aramony is expected to repay to the organization.

Although the Cape Fear chapter voted unanimously to continue its affiliation with United Way of America, only half the members present favored remitting the \$3,000 that would represent half the normal quarterly payment. The local chapter

pays 1 percent of its donations each year to the national organization.

Their reasoning is represented by Brunswick County board member Herbert Bell of Long Beach. "I think it's only fair to pay for services we want to continue using," he said. "It's not as though the UWA wasted all the donations we sent them. Since 17 percent of the questionable expenses have been cut by Interim President Ken Dam, only a fraction of our contributions are involved."

Bell said he has heard little public reaction to the incident, but he observed, "I'm concerned that people will use this as an excuse not to give."

Roberta Fugate, another board member from Long Beach, voted to withhold payment, because, she said, "the investigation is ongoing and I want to wait till the independent report is complete."

Fugate said, "I know from living in Washington what power and trappings of power are all about. It's a Washington mentality. But I'm far more concerned about those spin-offs, headed by relatives, than the expenditures."

With approximately two-thirds of

the nation's 1,700 United Way chapters withholding dues, the organization is forced to borrow money to continue operations, said Michael Griggs, Cape Fear director. "Locally, if we continue to withhold our dues, the question would finally come up as to our membership status," he said. The area chapter has been a member for 22 years.

Nevertheless, the board voted unanimously not to consider withdrawing from the organization.

Among the hopeful signs in the UWA, Griggs said, is that the Board of Governors has admitted "it didn't do its job as a steward of funds, and there is a process underway to restructure that board."

He called Thursday's local board meeting "substantive and thoughtful," and said another vote in May would perhaps resolve the matter of dues.

Local public protest has been minimal, Griggs indicated. "Just a handful called back in February to cancel their pledges, and a few others said to withdraw from United Way of America," he said, "but for every dollar of pledge that comes in,

just one penny goes to Washington and the other 99 cents stays here. Withdrawing it hurts us most."

President Lee Williams cautioned board members to wait until the fall campaign and see how much the scandal hurts contributions.

However, Bell observed, "I don't see how we can distinguish between the UWA matter and the recession, if there's a decline in donations."

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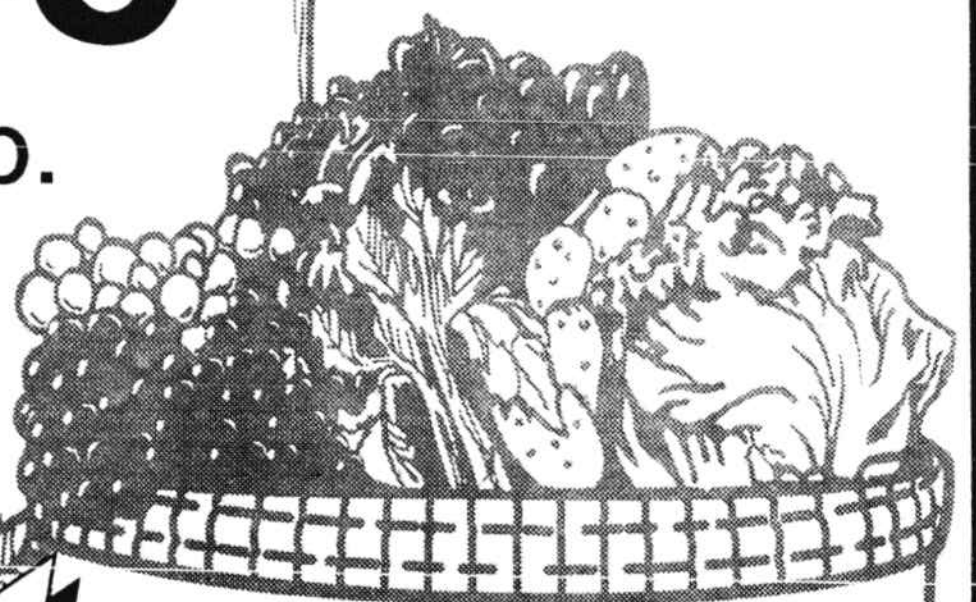
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## Marcus Rey Williams, M.D.

is no longer associated with Brunswick Islands Medical Associates, P.A.

and

is pleased to announce the opening of his Internal Medicine practice in Wilmington.

The Wilmington office will be located in the Spa Building, Suite 9A, 2250 Shipyard Blvd.

Opening June 1, 1992

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