

## New emergency station added to the island

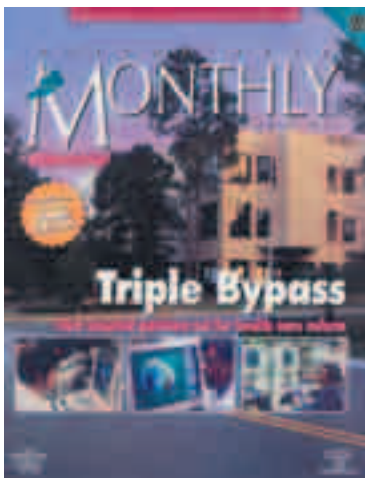
In late July, a new dispatch center for Hilton Head Island's Fire and Rescue Division opened on Oak Park Road on the north end, where it was moved from Arrow Road. This new office is situated in the second floor of PSD #1's office building. The dispatch center was moved following concerns about its susceptibility to flooding and from the high risk of 911 interference from lightning strikes on a nearby tower. The addition of a new fire station on Squire Pope Road was delayed, however, when the contractor was unable to find enough steel for the structure, due to rising prices. Once completed, the fire station will serve Hilton Head Plantation near the back gate and the soon-to-be-developed Squire Pope area.

## Heritage Academy to branch out to Daufuskie

The Heritage Academy received permission from the Beaufort County Development Review Team to build a new branch of its successful student-athlete-oriented school on Daufuskie Island. The new branch would be located within the Daufuskie Island Resort and Spa. Specific site plans were not finalized at press time, but initial plans call for the new branch to open in the fall. This new branch will be built specifically for those students enrolled in the International Junior Golf Academy, who will hone their skills on Daufuskie Island's many golf courses. Student housing will be located in cottages at the resort, with new residences for students planned within the next two years.

## Property tax thrown into chaos for county

As Beaufort County prepares to release its property tax bills in late summer, a bill enacting a 20 percent cap has stalled in Governor Sanford's office. A full month after it reached his desk, Sanford has done nothing. The county must now send out tax bills, but if the 20 percent cap bill is signed afterward, they would have to recalculate and resend. If the bill remains unsigned, it will automatically become law in January, in which case refunds would have to be issued. The county is holding out hope that Sanford will veto the bill, but caution that could still be overturned.



## 10 years ago this month in Monthly™

We focused on the Hilton Head Hospital (now Hilton Head Regional Medical Center) in our August 1994 issue. Spurred on by nationwide developments in health care, hospital partners sold the hospital, opening the door for its current state-wide prominence. Also, the precursor to our attractive real estate section first appeared in this issue. □

# STATEWIDENEWS

## Education for entrepreneurs

The National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship has introduced a curriculum of business-savvy classes to the state with the help of various business leaders and the College of Charleston. The project-based set of classes will begin this fall at the college, with almost 1,000 students learning to capitalize on opportunities and use their skills in business. The program, which is already in use in over 40 states, is aimed at lower-income youth who may not otherwise pursue careers in business. Business leaders expect that with the success of this program, we will see it statewide soon.

## Investment firms settle with state

A nationwide settlement with some of the nation's top investment firms has landed the state of South Carolina a tidy \$4.8 million. Extensive investigation into the firms revealed they were encouraging investment in companies they were receiving impressive fees from, but that were sure to lose money. The investigation began in New York and resulted in settlements in several states. All told, nine companies settled with South Carolina including UBS Securities, LLC, Piper Jeffray & CO., J.P. Morgan Securities Inc., Citigroup Global Markets, Inc., Goldman Sachs & Co., Credit Suisse First Boston LLC, and three more.

## State's northern border resurveyed

For the first time in American history (the last one was in 1772, technically still British history), South Carolina's border with North Carolina will be officially surveyed. The job has not been without difficulty, however, as a special commission needs to find the numerous natural boundary markers, such as trees and ridges, that marked the border over 200 years ago. Easily the hardest boundary marker to find will be a three-foot stone monument believed by many to be at the bottom of Lake Wylie. Sometime this month, divers plan to search for the marker, which may prove to be difficult due to low visibility in the lake.

## New machines don't get vote of confidence

The state's decision to award the contract for installing a state-wide electronic voting system to Nebraska's Election Systems & Software is creating no small amount of controversy throughout the state. First off, Sens. Jake Knotts and Greg Gregory, notified State Law Enforcement Division of a possible conflict of interest in the deal. Palmetto UniLect, a company who wasn't awarded the contract, has also officially complained. The controversy stems from Marci Andino, the commission director, who previously worked at Unisys, where she teamed up with Election Systems & Software in pursuing a contract to handle Georgia's statewide voting system.