

THE STATE PORT PILOT

A Good Newspaper In A Good Community

VOLUME 46 NUMBER 13

20 PAGES TODAY

SOUTHPORT, NORTH CAROLINA

OCTOBER 16, 1974

10 CENTS A COPY

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY

Phone Cables To Town Cut

A large underground telephone cable containing 100 pairs of telephone lines serving the Southport exchange was severed Friday morning.

The damage was done by digging crews along the highway near Sunny Point. Southern Bell repair crews were able to restore some service to the Southport - Long Beach area by 10:30 Friday morning. Even so, telephone communication to and from the area was knocked out from around 8:30 to 10:30 a.m.

The complex job of splicing in a new section of 100 - pair cable by emergency telephone repairmen was completed and service restored by 1 p.m.

J.H. Mann, district manager, said that the company regrets any inconvenience caused by the incident. "Damage to our lines such as this happens more often than we would like," Mann said.

He further stated that regular contacts are made

(Continued On Page 2)

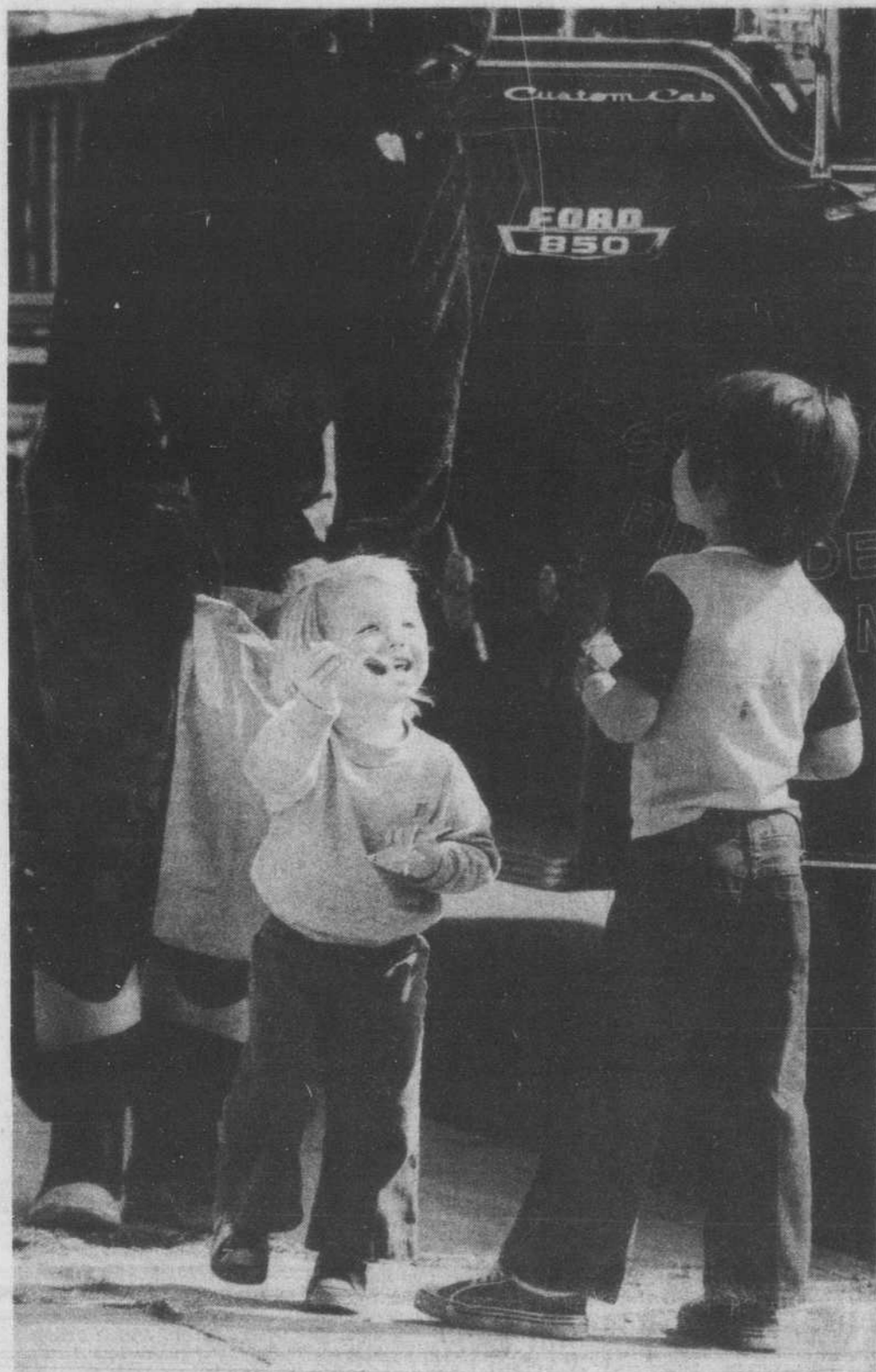
Seven South Students Out

Seven South Brunswick High School students were suspended following a "minor incident" Thursday morning, Supt. Ralph King has reported.

King said the incident started with "some pushing and shoving" before a fight started and "other students around reacted." He reported it was quickly brought under control.

The Brunswick County Sheriff's Department was called to the scene and one student was arrested on a juvenile petition, Sheriff Harold Willett reported.

Seven students were suspended for periods ranging from 5 to 30 days, Supt. King said.



HAPPINESS IS ... in this instance, a candy sucker given the young lady by "Smokey" the bear. Last week was National Fire Prevention Week, and among the local highlights were the appearance of "Smokey" in several locations and Saturday night's benefit softball game between the fire department and the Southport Jaycees. Reportedly over \$1,000 was collected.

New Petition Circulated

City Seeks 'Safeguard', Protects Doshier Future

By BILL ALLEN

City Attorney E.J. Prevatte has been authorized by the Southport Board of Aldermen "to take whatever action necessary to stop any work on the new county hospital until the determination is made concerning the future of Doshier."

The action giving Prevatte the authority to act on the matter was taken at the regular monthly meeting of the Southport Board of Aldermen Thursday night at City Hall.

The resolution, which was unanimously adopted by the board, also calls for the

circulation of new petitions to establish a hospital district in Smithville Township.

Action on the two matters was taken after Prevatte brought the board up-to-date on recent hospital developments and recommended a course of action to follow.

"We are right now faced with this matter coming to somewhat of a head," the city attorney told the board. "I am lead to believe possibly that there are some conflicting moves going on in the county, some of them in sympathy with what we want here and maybe some of them are not."

"I assume not, particularly in light of what one of the members of the Board of County Commissioners (Vice-Chairman J.T. Clemmons) said when he observed that the county is torn apart and split up worse than it has ever been and the time has come for people to come together," he stated. "I believe that there is more than some sentiment in the

direction to sit down and reason together."

But Attorney Prevatte said the aldermen needed "safeguard against eventualities. It has been brought to the county board's attention very forcefully that you cannot ignore the signatures of over 2,500 persons favoring something they want."

The city attorney recom-

(Continued On Page 2)

13,781 Registered

Brunswick County will have a total of 13,781 eligible voters who can cast ballots in November 5 general election, Chairman Lester Babson of the Brunswick County Board of Elections announced Monday.

"This is the largest number of eligible voters we have ever had in Brunswick County," Babson declared. "It shows how much our population has grown."

Brunswick County now has a total of 10,285 Democrats, 3,230 Republicans and 266 independent or no party voters.

Chairman Babson reported that 701 persons registered to vote in the county between May 7 and October 7, when the books closed for registration for the November 5 general election.

During the registration period, the number of registered Republicans increased 375 and the number of registered Democrats 311. The other new registration went in the independent or no party column.

The county is still short of having 14,001 registered voters, the number required to have a full-time Board of Elections office, Chairman Babson reported.

Southport, Long Beach Unanimous

County Wants Land-Use Plan; Towns Prefer Own

The Brunswick board of Commissioners has decided to submit a county wide land-use plan required in connection with the Coastal Management Act.

The board unanimously adopted a resolution during its regular meeting last week to file a letter of intent to prepare the necessary land-use plan. The resolution said it was the intent of the board to prepare the comprehensive land-use plan in cooperation with the various municipal planning boards in the county. It authorized County Manager Neil Mallory to apply for grant funds available for the planning.

The action was taken following a meeting of

Brunswick County municipality representatives at Jones' Restaurant at Long Beach. The meeting, which was also attended by state officials, was held to discuss planning requirements of the new Coastal Management Act.

Commission Chairman William Kopp, Jr., who is a member of the Coastal Management Commission, reported that October 29 is the deadline for counties and municipalities to submit letters of intent saying whether they will prepare land-use plans. Failure to submit the letter of intent, he said, means that the state commission will make the land-use plan.

He reported that the county can apply for a grant for

Brunswick County and obtain more funds than if both the county and the municipalities all make applications.

"I feel it is in the best interest of Brunswick County for the county to make the application and work with input from all the municipal planning boards," Chairman Kopp declared.

Mark Sullivan, assistant chief of the Division of Community Assistance with the Department of Natural and Economic Resources in Raleigh, and Susan Sheek, a senior planner with the Division of Community Assistance in the Fayetteville

office, explained the planning requirements to the municipality representatives.

They presented newly-prepared guidelines to be followed in submitting applications for planning grants. They said it was the first time the guidelines have been presented to a public body.

A total of 25 representatives from Brunswick County municipalities attended the meeting. Southport, Shady Forest and Calabash were not represented at the meeting, Mallory noted.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

At Least 3 To Plan Own

At least three Brunswick County municipalities have decided to submit their own land-use plans required by the Coastal Management Act of 1974.

Southport, Long Beach and Holden Beach town boards voted last week to submit their own land-use plans rather than have the county do it.

Yaupon Beach commissioners discussed the idea last week, but took no action. They are planning to hold a special meeting later in the month to vote on the matter.

It is not known at this time what the other municipalities in Brunswick County will do since they have not voiced their intentions.

Brunswick County Commissioners last week unanimously adopted a

resolution saying the county intended to prepare a land-use plan in cooperation with the municipalities.

Under the act, the county can submit a land-use plan for the entire county or the municipalities can submit individual land-use plans.

Commission Chairman William Kopp, Jr., who is also a member of the Coastal Resources Commission, recommended at several meetings that the county submit the land-use plan with input from municipalities.

He said this week he based his recommendation on the belief that it would be "easier in the long run if the county put together the total package." "But either way, it is perfectly all right,"

(Continued On Page 2)

No Official Action

Lawsuit Bills Before Board

During the adjourned session of the Board of County Commissioners here Friday Chairman W.A. Kopp, Jr., reported that he had been presented a bill for court costs in the recent litigation by two Brunswick County newspapers when they sought an injunction for failure to comply with the Open Meeting law.

Stating that the action had been taken upon advice of counsel and that "it was unfortunate this action had to take place. Nevertheless it was done," he then expressed the hope that fellow members of the board (excluding Commissioner James W. Smith, who was not a member at the time of the lawsuit) would concur with his decision to go immediately following the meeting to the office of the Clerk of Court and write personal checks for one-fifth the total amount of \$1,644.60.

No vote was asked for nor taken and there was no comment by other members of the board.

On a motion by Commissioner Vardell Hughes, seconded by Commissioner Smith, the board voted unanimously to rescind a previous action of retaining trustees as the governing authority of the proposed new hospital and to authorize the appointment of a hospital authority.

Commissioner Hughes stated he felt the earlier action was detrimental to put off naming the hospital authority and had voted against it. Chairman Kopp declared, "In my opinion the hospital authority concept will achieve the results I feel Mr. Clemmons (Commissioner J.T.) was looking for in his comments Monday."

Commissioner Clemmons was not present for the Friday meeting, having received painful but not serious injuries in an automobile accident.

A request from the Board of Education pertaining to needed repairs at the building now shared by that body with the Social Services Department and the Health Department brought the suggestion from Chairman Kopp that County Manager Neil Mallory remind Supt. Ralph King of the impending removal of the Social Services Department to a new location and to ask for his

recommendations based upon this new circumstance.

In other action the board heard Mallory explain the contract for inspection service from the Jerry Lewis Engineering Firm for inspection services for the installation of the pipeline for the new Brunswick County Water Authority.

He explained that this service is provided to see that specifications are being met, that there are no shortcuts and that the pipeline is cleared. A contract for these services was entered into in May, 1973, and the purpose of the requested action by the board was to eliminate any duplication with the

(Continued On Page 2)

Letter To Governor

Emergency Loans Sought For Brunswick Farmers

Several matters of major importance were handled by members of the Board of Commissioners at an adjourned session here Friday morning, among them a request to Gov. James E. Holshouser to intercede with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to have Brunswick County designated as an Emergency Loan Area.

Edward Johnson, county supervisor for Farmers Home Administration, presented information supporting the request,

declaring that excessive rainfall during the growing season had resulted in a 20-percent loss in the tobacco crop, a 20-to-30-percent loss in the corn crop and a 20-percent loss in the soybean crop.

He set the gross income from 2,640 acres of tobacco at \$5,280,000; the gross income from 15,072 acres of corn at \$3,768,000 and the gross income from 9,500 acres of soybeans at \$1,662,500.

Johnson pointed out that these emergency loans would

be at 5 percent and would be used to pay-off existing indebtedness, with repayment being stretched out over a 1-to-5-year period, depending upon the financial ability of the individual farmer.

The commissioners voted unanimously to have County Manager Neil Mallory write a letter making this request through the governor's office:

"The Brunswick County Board of Commissioners in formal session on October 11, 1974, adopted the attached resolution requesting that you officially designate Brunswick County as an Emergency Loan Area due to massive crop damages as a result of weather extremes. As you well know, Brunswick County is primarily an agrarian county with a large percentage of our total income derived from farm crops. I am personally acquainted with this situation having talked with numerous agricultural leaders in Brunswick County and the information received has been corroborated by Mr. Edward J. Johnson, County Supervisor, Farmers Home Administration.

Hasn't Paid Yet

County Commissioner Chairman William A. Kopp, Jr., who Friday told fellow commissioners he was going straight to the Clerk of Court and pay one-fifth of the Open Meetings lawsuit court cost, had not paid his share as of noon Wednesday.

Star-News reporter Vicki Clemmer quoted Kopp as saying he was going to write a check for the amount. "I don't have it but I can bit the nickel a little bit," the chairman said.

A total of \$1,644.60 was levied against the commissioners, "individually and collectively," by Superior Court Judge E. Maurice Braswell. Unofficial reports place the total already paid in the commissioners' defense at \$7,000 — all from county funds. Before Kopp's statement on Friday, it was expected taxpayers would have paid the final portion, too.

19 NB Students Are Disciplined

Disciplinary action has been taken against 19 students involved in the recent disorder at North Brunswick High School, Supt. Ralph King said this week.

Nine students have been expelled for the remainder of the school year while ten students have been suspended, six for ten days and four for five days.

"All the students who have been disciplined were involved either directly or indirectly in the disorder,"

Supt. King declared.

The disciplinary action was taken after North Brunswick Principal Nelson Best and his staff spent one week investigating the disorder, which occurred October 4. Their report was reviewed by a faculty judiciary committee before it was turned over to King.

King reported that the North Brunswick committee is still investigating reports that a school bus was run off

(Continued On Page 2)