

Angry citizens



Photo by Holly Edwards

About 50 angry zoning opponents wanted to address the planning board last Wednesday but board member Marion Warren (right) told the crowd the planning board was conducting a meeting and not a public hearing. Residents complained that their property rights were being taken away and they were not given an opportunity to say anything about it.

Residents protest zoning plan

By Holly Edwards
County Editor

About 50 angry Brunswick County residents turned out for last week's planning board meeting to protest the county's proposed zoning ordinance, but were told they would not be allowed to address the board.

"This is a meeting, not a public hearing," planning board member Marion Warren told the crowd Wednesday night. "Like all public meetings, all members of the public are invited to hear and listen, but we will not be taking statements."

This did not placate the crowd, however, and seemed to make people more frustrated.

"If the taxpayers can't voice their opinion, then the county commissioners forgot who put

them there," declared Shallotte resident Herman Barry, Sr. "They're taking the taxpayers in Brunswick County for something to play with. I'm fed up with all of them."

County commissioners have scheduled a joint workshop with the planning board next Monday, October 26, at 6:30 p.m. in the public assembly building, and have agreed to hear specific complaints about the proposed ordinance. However, they will not listen to rambling dissertations on the evils of zoning in general, said commissioners' chairman Kelly Holden.

"We'll give people with legitimate concerns another chance to be heard," Holden said. "The sad thing is, there's no way we're going to please some of these people. They're just against zoning, period."

In fact, most of the people at

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'A small group can make a lot of noise, but I expected some anger over zoning in general. I'm afraid we're just going to have gridlock because we'll be so paralyzed by fear, and paralyzed by a small group. The people who are concerned about it should come forward....'

Kelly Holden
Commissioners chairman

Commissioners discuss issue, page 7; will meet with planning board

Southport takes recycling lead

By Amitabh Pal
Municipal Editor

Southport residents received an unexpected gift from the city this week -- a recycling bin that is an integral part of the city's mandatory curbside recycling program that starts November 1.

Southport is the first municipality in the county to start curbside recycling. Proposed to the board of aldermen in May by public works director Ed Honeycutt, it was approved by the board in June as part of the 1992-93 budget.

The program requires residents to put recyclable materials like newspapers, certain types of plastic, glass and aluminum in the bins, which will be picked up according to a yet undetermined schedule.

The bins were delivered with a brochure explaining the program.

Waste Industries, the firm which picks up the garbage, has been given

the contract for the program at the rate of \$1.40 per household per month. All households in the city are covered by

this program and it is mandatory for all households to pay this charge. The total cost works out to \$19,000 per

year. Honeycutt said that the schedule has not been established, but that it would probably be on the same day as garbage pickup but during alternate weeks. This would mean that the bins would be picked up every other Monday on the west side of the city and every other Tuesday on the east side.

There are no fines being imposed for putting recyclables in the trash and, in that sense, participation in the program is voluntary.

The incentive for the program is a law that North Carolina passed (SB 111) last year that mandated that governmental bodies in the state responsible for operating a landfill should have a 25-percent reduction in refuse by July, 1993.

The only government in Brunswick County operating a landfill is the county itself. However, the county has to rely on municipal governments to start active programs for trash re-

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NationsBank to open office near Beach Road

Charlotte-based Nationsbank has announced plans to open a branch near the intersection of N. C. 211 and Beach Road by mid-1993.

Construction on the 2,100-square-foot, four-teller, ATM-equipped facility, the fifth Nationsbank branch in Brunswick County, is expected to begin in early 1993.

The branch will be under supervision of Dennis Crocker at the Shallotte branch. Nationsbank, which was formed from the old NCNB on January 1, also has branches in Seaside, Calabash and Holden Beach.

Larry Jones, senior vice-president for the bank's southeast North Carolina region, said Nationsbank is "very excited" about coming into the Southport-Oak Island area.

"It is a strategic move for us," said Jones. "We're looking forward to it."

Long Beach adopts junk vehicle rule

By Amitabh Pal
Municipal Editor

Long Beach councilmen Tuesday night adopted a junk vehicle ordinance and accepted a civil preparedness program. At the same time, they discussed the underground laying of utility wires and postponed a discussion of a Polykart policy until a special workshop later this month.

The junk vehicle ordinance restricts open storage of junk vehicles by their owners, forbidding such vehicles in open spaces beyond a certain length of time.

The ordinance also prohibits storage of a junked vehicle on a premises for more than ten days after receipt of a notice by the town. The owner would be liable to a fine up to \$250 and/or three months imprisonment.

The council also adopted a comprehensive civil preparedness program designed to deal with a variety of emergency and disaster situations.

The council briefly discussed a proposal by Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation (BEMC) to lay underground electric cables

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CP&L says worker was contaminated

By Jim Harper
Staff Writer

A CP&L worker was contaminated with alpha radiation in a spill of radioactive material at the Brunswick nuclear plant September 22, but the dosage was "far below an over-exposure," a company spokesman said Tuesday.

"The individual is a CP&L person with a health-physics background and he is not alarmed," the CP&L spokesman said.

Six workers who might have been contaminated by the spill of americium beryllium in the spent fuel pool were examined in Erwin, Tenn., on October 5 and only one tested for alpha radiation "above background" -- above normal -- the spokesman said Tuesday.

That worker was reexamined in Erwin on Monday, along with three additional workers who might have been affected, and again tested "above background," though the other three did not.

"He showed some higher-than-background (contamination)," the company spokesman said of the first examination, "but far below an over-exposure and very far below regulatory limits. The amount he received won't impact on physical effects at all."

The spokesman said that both CP&L and the Nuclear Regulatory Commission are investigating to determine how the incident occurred.

According to the company, a worker in the spent fuel pool cut into a tube of the radioactive material while preparing it for removal to a disposal site in South Carolina.

That worker, who was wearing protective gear, was apparently not

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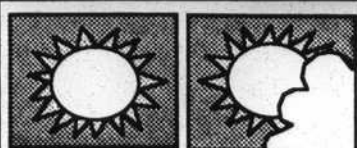
Utility will brief NRC

Carolina Power and Light Co. officials will brief Nuclear Regulatory Agency personnel Friday on the status of inspections and repairs at the stilled Brunswick nuclear plant here.

Both generating units at the plant have been out of commission since April 21 for repairs and the company has been briefing the NRC in monthly sessions, which are open to the public but are not for public participation.

The Friday session will begin at 10 a.m. in the meeting room at the CP&L visitor center.

OUTSIDE



Forecast

The extended forecast calls for variably cloudy skies Thursday through Sunday, with highs in the mid-70s and lows in the mid-50s.

Tide table

HIGH	THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22	LOW
5:24 a.m.		11:37 a.m.
5:45 p.m.		----- p.m.
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23		
6:23 a.m.		12:01 a.m.
6:41 p.m.		12:34 p.m.
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24		
7:17 a.m.		12:54 a.m.
7:32 p.m.		1:27 p.m.
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25		
7:08 a.m.		1:42 a.m.
7:22 p.m.		1:19 p.m.
MONDAY, OCTOBER 26		
7:58 a.m.		1:28 a.m.
8:10 p.m.		2:07 p.m.
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27		
8:45 a.m.		2:14 a.m.
8:57 p.m.		2:55 p.m.
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28		
9:33 a.m.		2:59 a.m.
9:44 p.m.		3:41 p.m.

The following adjustments should be made:
Bald Head Island, high -10, low -7; Caswell Beach, high -5, low -1; Southport, high +7, low +15; Yaupon Beach, high -32, low -45; Lockwood Folly, high -22, low -8.