



# Democrats benefit most from record turnout

## Long Beach limits terms, votes on issue

By Amitabh Pal  
Municipal Editor

Long Beach voters on Tuesday decisively approved two local referendum initiatives, voting 1,503 to 475 to reduce terms of the town council members from four to two years and 1,202 to 754 to prohibit defeated bond referendums from being brought before voters again for five years.

"Beautiful," said Frances Allen, spokesperson for the Concerned Citizens of Long Beach (CCLB) that put the two initiatives to a vote with a petition drive last spring.

"It shows dissatisfaction with the current administration," Allen said. "It is the best expression of dissatisfaction that could be made."

She said the outcome of the vote wasn't due to the national dissatisfaction with elected officials and was "purely local."

Mayor Joan Altman, who spoke out against both initiatives, said she preferred not to comment on the vote and denied that she was disappointed.

"The voters have spoken and Long Beach will survive," she said. "I respect the decision of the electorate."

Altman did comment on motivation leading to the referendum.

"I think some voters have been given faulty and incorrect information about the council and the decisions that have been made," she said. "People attribute motives to the council that don't exist."

Altman said the vote apparently sprang from dissatisfaction with the sewer referendum, defeated by Long Beach.

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## NEW ATTORNEY GENERAL



Mike Easley was assisted by his son, Michael, in casting his ballot in Southport Tuesday before going on to Raleigh and a victory celebration as the new state attorney general. Easley built a political base on his reputation as a drug-busting district attorney in the local 13th Judicial District.

## Party claims three board seats; Fairley tops Carter

By Holly Edwards  
County Editor

About 100 candidates and curious citizens filled the public assembly building at the Brunswick County Government Center last night to witness election results first hand. As final totals for each precinct came in, candidates who had apparently lost left quietly while winners stayed on to shake hands and recite victory speeches.

Voter turnout was the highest ever, with 68 percent of the county's 32,769 registered voters going to the polls.

The board of commissioners will have three new Democrats when Tom Rabon, Sr., Wayland Vereen and Don Warren take office on December 7.

Rabon received 12,174 votes to defeat Patty Young with 9,211 votes; Vereen received 11,168 votes to edge Bob Slockett with 10,270 votes; and Warren received 11,621 votes to top Joe Brust with 9,538 votes.

"I appreciate the confidence people have in me, and I'll do my best. But I think I'll stop with that for the time being," Rabon said, declining to elaborate on what his initial objectives might be.

Rabon has said that he is in favor of zoning, but feels the proposed zoning ordinance needs some "fine-tuning."

Vereen said Tuesday night that he believes the zoning ordinance, if adopted, should be repealed.

"Zoning is something that will have to be worked on," he said. "I feel there are a lot of people it is unfair to."

Warren has not said whether he would vote to repeal the zoning ordinance if it is adopted, but did say he has a number of questions about

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the proposal.

One of the closest races in the election was for the District 1 seat on the board of education: Democrat Thurman Gause received 10,657 votes to barely beat out Janet Pope with 10,549 votes. Incumbent Donna Baxter received 11,915 votes to defeat Pete Barnett with 9,317 votes, and Bill Fairley received 11,109 votes to beat William Carter with 10,117 votes.

Fairley said he is anxious to get to know the other board members and talk with superintendent of schools Ralph Johnston.

"The most critical thing is improving the performance of high school

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# County salaries up to par, other raises given

By Holly Edwards  
County Editor

## Board votes 3-2 for countywide zoning, page 5

Brunswick County commissioners decided Monday to bring the annual salaries of all county employees who have been working for sub-standard wages up to the minimum recommended level, and to award an additional 2.5-percent raise to those employees who have been working at or above the minimum level all along.

County manager/attorney David Clegg and county personnel officer Starrie Grissett were directed by the board to implement the salary changes by December 1.

"Some of those making above the minimum level might not be deserving of that extra raise," commissioner

Jerry Jones admitted. "But we're trying to be as fair for everybody as we could."

Commissioner Gene Pinkerton said the additional 2.5-percent raise for some county employees was intended to compensate for the increase in the cost of living.

All county employees were given a 2.5-percent raise in June, and commissioners agreed to wait until the employee reclassification study was completed before approving any additional salary increases.

The results of the study were presented to commissioners Monday by

representatives of David M. Griffith and Associates of Raleigh. The firm classified all county employees according to the tasks they perform, and recommended minimum, mid-point and upper ranges of annual incomes for each position.

About 65 percent of county employees were either reclassified or repositioned on the pay scale, while about 35 percent were found to be earning annual salaries within the upper and lower ranges, and it is this 35 percent that will receive the additional 2.5-percent raise.

Asked if he thought the additional

raise was fair, commissioners chairman Kelly Holden replied: "We tried to look at every option, and this was as fair a way as we knew to do it. Everybody we felt should get a little something."

If everyone had gotten a 2.5-percent raise in addition to being brought up to the minimum level, Holden said some employees would have seen a "humongous" increase in their salary.

The salary increases will add an extra \$664,227 to the county's current estimated net payroll of \$6 million. However, the increases will be funded only through June, 1993, and a per-

centage will be reimbursed by the state, said county finance officer Lithia Hahn. Therefore, the actual amount of additional county funds needed for the salary increases this fiscal year is about \$277,000.

The sheriff's department and register of deeds office opted not to take part in the study. County personnel officer Grissett determined minimum salaries for positions in those departments by calculating state averages for similar positions. As in other county departments, commissioners recommended that all employees be brought up to the minimum salary

level, and those above the minimum level be awarded the additional 2.5-percent raise.

The chief of detectives -- the highest position in the sheriff's department -- will receive a ten-percent raise, said Grissett.

Results of the time management studies conducted for the department of social services and health department were referred to their respective boards for comment.

"I am in complete agreement with the health department and social services management studies," said Clegg. "They proved to me and the rest of the world that these departments were being appropriately managed."

# NRC will file exposure report

By Jim Harper  
Staff Writer

Local investigation of a September 22 incident that contaminated a CP&L worker with radioactive material has been completed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, and a report is expected from that agency in about 30 days.

In the incident a worker, who is not being identified by CP&L or the NRC, was contaminated by Americium 241, a source of alpha radiation, when another worker cut into a container of the material in the process of readying it for shipment to a disposal site.

The cleanup of the spent fuel pool was an activity associated with the

*The worker, who was wearing protective clothing but no mask, apparently breathed in the radioactive material which is now lodged in his lung*

current outage. The tube containing the radioactive material had been on site since 1978, and was the final item taken from the unit 2 spent fuel pool.

The worker, who was wearing protective clothing but no mask, apparently breathed in the radioactive material which is now lodged in his lung.

The portable bandsaw operator, who was wearing a protective breathing apparatus, and eight other people taken in the area, have not been found contaminated in tests conducted with sophisticated equipment in Tennessee.

A danger of Americium contami-

nation, an NRC radiation specialist said last week, is bone cancer.

But the specialist, along with a CP&L spokesman interviewed earlier, said that danger is slight in this case.

"He has deposited in his lung a very, very small amount of Americium 241," Eldan D. Testa, from the NRC Atlanta office, said here last week. "The amount is so small that no long-term health effects are expected."

The 14-foot metal tube which was being cut for shipment is a source of radiation used long ago in instrument testing, senior NRC resident inspector R. L. Prevatte said last week.

He said workers were not clear what

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## OUTSIDE

### Tide table

HIGH	THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5	LOW
3:46 a.m.	9:58 a.m.	
4:12 p.m.	10:22 p.m.	
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6		
4:35 a.m.	10:51 a.m.	
4:59 p.m.	11:07 p.m.	
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7		
5:20 a.m.	11:39 a.m.	
5:41 p.m.	11:49 p.m.	
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8		
6:03 a.m.	----- a.m.	
6:25 p.m.	12:23 p.m.	
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9		
6:45 a.m.	12:31 a.m.	
7:03 p.m.	1:07 p.m.	
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10		
7:27 a.m.	1:12 a.m.	
7:44 p.m.	1:49 p.m.	
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11		
8:07 a.m.	1:53 a.m.	
8:25 p.m.	2:33 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 -4.

### Forecast

The extended forecast calls for partly cloudy skies Thursday through Saturday with a chance of showers. Highs will be in the 60s, with nighttime lows in the 50s.