

# The State Port

# P.I.L.O.

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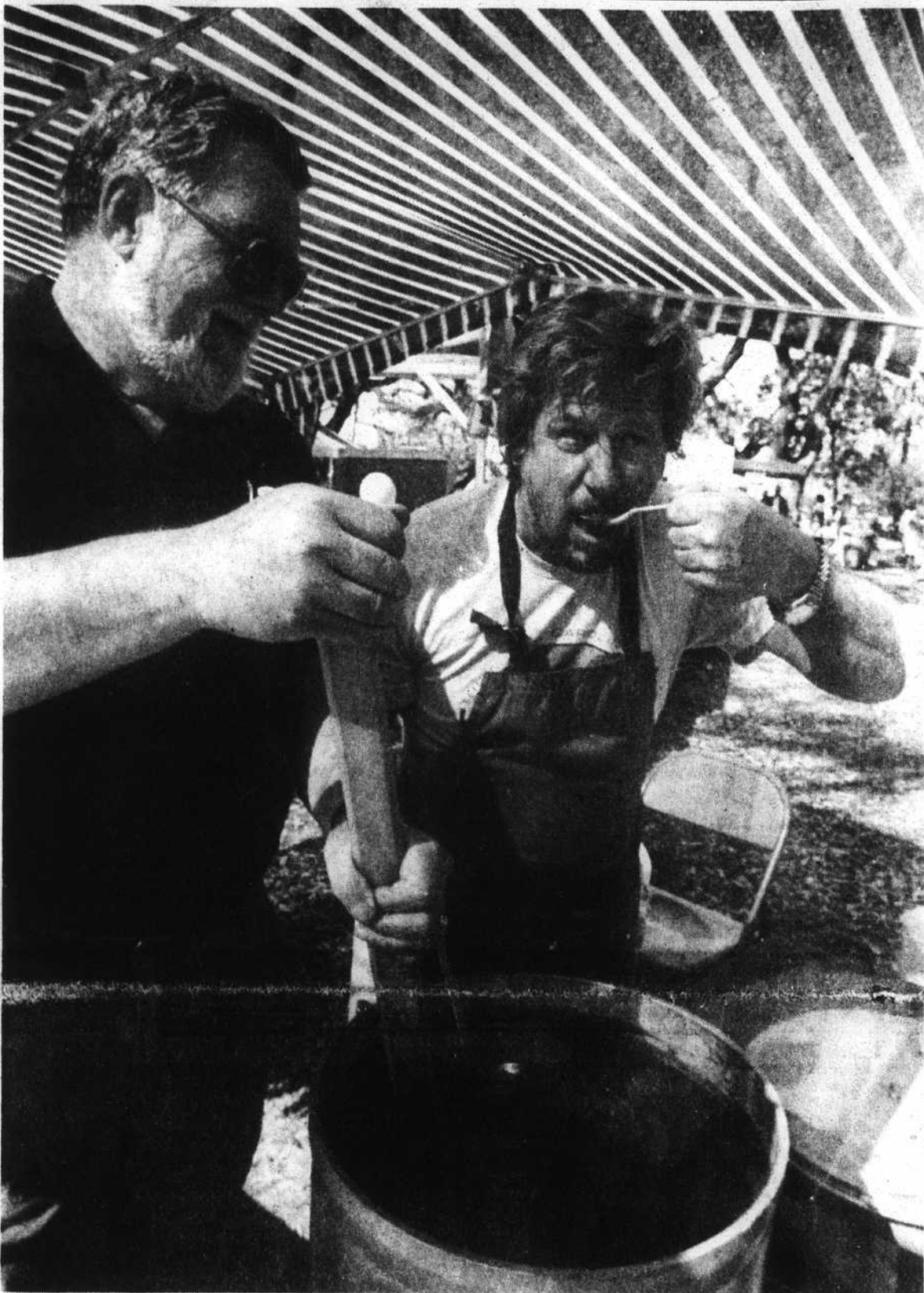
Southport-Oak Island's most complete listing of available real estate properties



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Ray's blue ribbon chili, tops in the field in 1992, was still good enough to finish second (and good enough for the cook to eat) in last weekend's Robert Ruark Foundation chili cookoff in Franklin Square.

Photo by Jim Harper

## Some see deeper problem

# Could funding cure mental health woes?

By Terry Pope  
County Editor

Backlogs and waiting lists that seem to grow longer each day haunt the staff of the Brunswick County Mental Health Center at Bolivia.

But some officials are questioning where all of the money goes for a program that may need healing.

Of a \$9.3 million 1993-94 proposed budget, some are concerned local residents may not get their share of services through the regional Southeastern Center for Mental Health, says Brunswick County commissioner Wayland Vereen.

He has asked for an explanation, suggesting the same services are not available for all residents of the three-county area and that Brunswick County may get the shorter end of the stick.

"I haven't got all of the answers I've asked for yet," said Vereen. "I'm just interested in seeing that we get our fair share out of this."

The county will allocate \$295,847 in county funds plus a mandated \$22,000 in Alcoholic Beverage Control sales to help fund the Southeastern Center, which also serves New Hanover and Pender counties. That represents \$5.47 for each of the county's 54,097 permanent residents, but health experts say that amount is far from adequate and that waiting lists will continue to grow without increased funding.

"When it comes to mental health services, Brunswick County is a Third World country," said Linda Bethune, member of the Southeastern Center Board of Directors. The board has

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## Southeastern Center for Mental Health

Requested Budget (Fiscal Year 1993-1994)

	POPULATION	COUNTY FUNDS	PER CAPITA
Brunswick County	54,097	\$295,847	\$5.47
New Hanover County	123,414	\$793,255	\$6.43
Pender County	30,368	\$150,000	\$4.94
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>207,879</b>	<b>\$1,239,102</b>	<b>\$5.96</b>

## 'All-America' city is the goal

By Holly Edwards  
Municipal Editor

Out of 151 applications from cities in 40 states, the City of Southport has for the second year in a row been selected among the 30 finalists to compete in the National Civic League's All-America City award program.

City representatives will face questions and make a formal presentation to the All-America City jury on May 20-22 in Tampa, Fla.

"Having been selected two years in a row I think is outstanding," declared mayor Norman Holden. "Especially for the individuals putting together the proposal."

City finance officer Sylvia Butterworth was one of those individuals, and she made no excuses about why the city was unsuccessful last year.

"We just said, 'Oh, how lovely we look and how safe and happy we all are.' We didn't show how we got there," Butterworth observed. "We went down there with the idea of presenting a wonderful, perfect community. But what the program is about is problems and how we solved them through community-wide efforts."

This year, the city will present the jury with former substandard houses

*'We went down there with the idea of presenting a wonderful, perfect community. But what the program is about is problems and how we solved them through community-wide efforts.'*

Sylvia Butterworth  
Committee member

and efforts to restore them, and with community efforts to revitalize Southport's economy.

"The economic decline in the 70s when the county (government offices) pulled out was a tremendous blow to the city," said All-America City committee member Joanne Wesson. "We

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## Smoking ban a complex issue

By Terry Pope  
County Editor

Smoking may be banned at the government center near Bolivia and restricted in other public places if county commissioners agree with two policies recommended by the Brunswick County Board of Health.

One policy bans smoking in government-owned buildings and vehicles. A second proposal forces restaurant owners in unincorporated areas of the county to set aside 25 percent of their seating space for non-smokers.

Some health board members oppose the rule for restaurant owners, but the policy aimed at making the government center smoke-free passed unanimously Monday.

Smoke is a big problem for employees who work at the county courthouse, said health board chairman H. J. (Skip) Davis.

"People are standing out there smoking with a cigarette in both hands," said Davis. "People who work in an enclosed area eight hours a day should not be subjected to second-hand smoke."

The complex ban would include all county-owned buildings and prohibit smoking within 25 feet of a main entrance and 15 feet of an auxiliary entrance or exit. Employees caught violating the order would face disciplinary action.

Commissioner Don Warren, who serves on the health board, said the policy that affects public places would make it difficult for small businesses to stay open. He voted against it, along with Davis and Harry Johnson.

"I don't want to go on record of putting anybody out of business," said Warren, a reformed smoker.

That policy makes it a misdemeanor for failure to provide no-smoking areas in bars and restaurants. It prohibits smoking in public retail stores, service lines, elevators, public restrooms and polling places.

Employers would have to provide smoke-free areas for non-smoking employees within existing facilities and post no-smoking signs. If in violation, the owner could face misdemeanor charges, a \$50 fine and up to 30 days in jail.

Davis said residents contacted him to ask that the ban extend beyond the complex to area businesses. The health board has the option to adopt its own

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## CP&L draws closer to restart

By Jim Harper  
Staff Writer

The Brunswick nuclear plant moved a step closer to restart Friday with a favorable assessment by a visiting Nuclear Regulatory Commission operational readiness assessment team.

"We've concluded that they have the right programs, the right management, and seem to have the right attitude and procedures," said Peter Koltay, who came from the NRC Washington office to lead the two-week assessment.

And Jon Johnson, who has met monthly with Carolina Power and Light Co. as part of the Atlanta NRC supervision team, said, "The thing I've noticed is that the employees are very familiar with what the goals of management are. Supervisors are talking with staff, and that hasn't always

been the case."

Said Roy Anderson, CP&L vice-president in charge of the Brunswick plant, "This is an inspection we had to pass, and we passed."

Next up, CP&L and Brunswick officials will meet here with the NRC on Monday at another assessment conference before the regulatory agency gives a go-ahead for restart.

But Anderson, confident of what he's seen since he took over in January, said Brunswick will restart "on the 26th, just like we said."

Thereafter in a measured power-up, the plant will hopefully move toward productive electric generation sometime in June.

No power has been generated by the two nuclear reactors at the Brunswick plant since last April 21, when CP&L shut down both units for repairs

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ANDERSON

## OUTSIDE



### Forecast

The extended forecast calls for mostly cloudy skies on Thursday, with showers likely on Friday. Highs will be in the 70s and lows in the 60s. Partly cloudy skies and cooler temperatures are expected Saturday, with highs in the 60s and lows in the 50s.

### Tide table

HIGH	THURSDAY, APRIL 15	LOW
3:57 a.m.		10:06 a.m.
4:23 p.m.		10:28 p.m.
HIGH	FRIDAY, APRIL 16	LOW
4:52 a.m.		10:57 a.m.
5:14 p.m.		11:22 p.m.
HIGH	SATURDAY, APRIL 17	LOW
5:41 a.m.		11:45 a.m.
6:01 p.m.		11:49 p.m.
HIGH	SUNDAY, APRIL 18	LOW
6:25 a.m.		12:12 a.m.
6:45 p.m.		12:28 p.m.
HIGH	MONDAY, APRIL 19	LOW
7:07 a.m.		12:57 a.m.
7:26 p.m.		1:10 p.m.
HIGH	TUESDAY, APRIL 20	LOW
7:47 a.m.		1:40 a.m.
8:03 p.m.		1:49 p.m.
HIGH	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21	LOW
8:26 a.m.		2:21 a.m.
8:39 p.m.		2:28 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.