



Restart is going smoothly

By Jim Harper
Staff Writer

Restart of the Brunswick nuclear plant is going smoothly and the process is "within hours of where we thought we'd be," plant vice-president Roy Anderson said Tuesday.

Anderson said that heatup from the nuclear reactor had produced steam at the 150-pound level and that equipment utilizing steam was being tested.

Generation of electricity to flow into the CP&L system is not expected until later in the month

"The plant is tighter than I expected it to be," Anderson said, meaning simply that with increased steam pressure there have been relatively few steam leaks.

Carolina Power and Light Co. officials, including Anderson, anticipated leaks in the steam system after the plant's idleness for over a year.

By the end of this week steam pressure should reach the 1,000-pound level necessary for normal turbine operation and electricity generation, Anderson said.

"That will be the test to determine whether we take the planned shutdown or not," he said.

Part of the restart schedule is an 11-day period to address any problems, such as leaks, which have arisen in the ascension to full steam pressure.

If the first of two planned 11-day shutdowns is not required, Anderson said that by the end of next week the plant should be at 35 to 40 percent power and generating electricity.

However, generation of electricity to flow into the CP&L system is not expected until later in the month.

At the plant Tuesday Dick Prevatte, senior resident inspector for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, agreed that the restart of the Brunswick plant is proceeding well.

"They're doing all right," Prevatte said. See Restart, page 6



Barbie Boyd launches a kite into the clear Yaupon Beach air last week. She says the kite, bought at a toy counter, works fine for her.

Photo by Jim Harper

FEMA finally acts

Towns, county to get 'limited' federal help

By Terry Pope
and Holly Edwards
Pilot Writers

Federal and state officials began comparing notes Monday with the county and beach towns that spent money to remove debris caused by the powerful March 13 winter storm.

Brunswick County was one of 32 made eligible last week for limited federal assistance to local governments and rural utility companies to help them recover from the damage.

However, the long-awaited announcement stopped short of offering assistance to individual homeowners and businesses hurt by the hurricane-force winds and power outages that wrecked the county.

"From what we're hearing now, that's pretty much final," said Cecil Logan, Brunswick County's emergency management coordinator.

'At least we finally got a little money from them, and we're very thankful for that. But, it's not going to be an easy process.... There's no rush in these people.'

Tim Johnson
Long Beach town manager

President Bill Clinton's declaration made the county and towns eligible for reimbursement for debris removal and emergency protective measures. It will cover 75 percent of the cost in overtime pay for rescue workers and clean-up crews.

"It's a limited deal," said Brunswick County's interim county manager John Harvey.

It will not pay for restoring sand dunes lost to erosion or for uninsured businesses hurt by the storm. Gov. Jim Hunt's request that the state be declared a major disaster area was denied.

Two teams, each composed of a federal and state investigator, began auditing expense sheets at Holden. See FEMA, page 6

District continuing with site acquisition

By Jim Harper
Staff Writer

Negotiation continues between a Southeast Brunswick Sanitary District committee and owners of the proposed waste treatment site on Beaverdam Creek.

"We believe we are close to negotiating a satisfactory option. We're satisfied progress is being made," consultant-committee member Finley Boney reported Monday.

Boney, attorney Jim Prevatte and sanitary district commissioner Tommy Bowmer are charged with negotiating for a 41-acre site, owned by St. James developer Homer Wright and three other principals, on Old Georgetown Road.

"In general Homer Wright and the others are very receptive," Boney said. In addition to advising the district on procedures necessary to get wastewater treatment operating, Boney

heads the company doing engineering for the project.

The district has budgeted \$80,000 for acquisition of land and of right-of-way for the project. Construction bid opening is expected in October, with completion of the project in around nine months.

Boney also reported that survey work as a basis for system design is well underway.

He said that he recently spoke with Don Warren, chairman of the county board of commissioners, and received assurances of county cooperation in the sanitary district project.

The district, a creation of the board of commissioners, is expected to trace the county water system through its territory and to have county assistance in billing since sewer use must be gauged by how much water is used.

Boney also said that both the county and the district can apply for Community Development Block Grant money to help defray the cost of hooking up district residents to the county water system.

Boney said that he'd also talked with county planner (and interim county manager) John Harvey, who assured him that help with district zoning is proceeding.

In general discussion Boney indicated that the Yaupon Beach sewer system, which he is also engineering. See District, page 6



BAREFOOT

Board clerk to keep her job, for now

By Terry Pope
County Editor

Clerk to the board of commissioners Kelly Barefoot remained on the job Tuesday.

Commissioners took no action at Monday's meeting when one of three Democrats didn't attend.

Wayland Vereen reported he was sick and could not make the meeting, said chairman Don Warren.

Reports indicated Mrs. Barefoot, if See Clerk, page 6

Public areas of complex

County allows smoking ban

By Terry Pope
County Editor

A swift vote Monday snuffed out smoking at the Brunswick County Government Center at Bolivia.

On second reading, commissioners adopted the no-smoking ordinance, 3-1, effective immediately.

Only commissioner Donald Shaw was opposed. He said government shouldn't interfere in the controversy over a person's right to smoke and that

courtesy should be the guiding factor over whether to light up a cigarette.

The ordinance was drafted by a committee of residents and county personnel and submitted to the

Brunswick County Board of Health. It was passed to commissioners for approval last month, but a 4-1 vote forced a second reading Monday.

"I see no reason why it can't go into

effect right away," said chairman Don Warren. "Departments have ordered the no-smoking signs."

The policy extends to all county-owned buildings but not county vehicles. It states that studies show tobacco smoke contributes to indoor air pollution and that breathing second-hand smoke is a "significant health hazard to non-smokers."

Approximately 5,000 non-smokers, according to a U. S. surgeon general's report, die each year from breathing passive smoke.

"The board of county commissioners recognizes the increasing evidence that smoke creates a danger to the health of some citizens," the policy states, "and is a cause of annoyance and physical discomfort to those who are in confined spaces where smoke is present."

Smoking is prohibited in public restrooms, assembly rooms, hallways, corridors, employee lounges and any other area designated by department heads, who have been instructed to take appropriate disciplinary action when an employee violates the rule.

The initial violation will result in See Smoking, page 6

County agencies ask for large increases

Those asking for county funds are asking for a lot. Requests from county departments, the school system and other agencies total \$12.4 million more than what was allocated by county commissioners last year.

"If granted, the requested amount would require an increase of just shy of 31 cents per \$100 taxable valuation," said interim county manager John Harvey, "putting the tax rate at 98.83 cents per \$100."

The current tax rate is 68 cents per \$100 of property value. Harvey plans to present his proposed budget to county commissioners at the May 17 meeting. However, he has declined to say what tax rate his package will include.

In an address to department heads last month, Harvey asked for a five-percent cut from 1992-93 allocations.

The Brunswick County Board of Education has asked for a 26.5-percent hike, an increase from \$7.5 million to \$9.4 million. It would pay for a two-percent salary increase, technology equipment to expand computer labs, a new elementary school in Leland and renovations to West Brunswick High at Shallotte.

Plans are to hold a public hearing on the proposed budget May 27 with adoption at a special meeting June 14.

'I see no reason why it can't go into effect right away. Departments have ordered the no-smoking signs.'

Don Warren
Commission chairman

OUTSIDE



Forecast

The extended forecast calls for partly cloudy skies on Thursday but fair weather both Friday and Saturday. Highs are expected in the 80s with nighttime lows in the 60s.

Tide table

HIGH	THURSDAY, MAY 6	LOW
8:48 a.m.		2:45 a.m.
9:23 p.m.		2:51 p.m.
	FRIDAY, MAY 7	
9:40 a.m.		3:36 a.m.
10:13 p.m.		3:39 p.m.
	SATURDAY, MAY 8	
10:30 a.m.		4:25 a.m.
11:02 p.m.		4:27 p.m.
	SUNDAY, MAY 9	
11:20 a.m.		5:13 a.m.
11:50 p.m.		5:16 p.m.
	MONDAY, MAY 10	
12:11 p.m.		5:59 a.m.
	TUESDAY, MAY 11	
12:40 a.m.		6:49 a.m.
1:03 p.m.		6:57 p.m.
	WEDNESDAY, MAY 12	
1:30 a.m.		7:38 a.m.
1:54 p.m.		7:51 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.