

# The State Port

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



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## Start-up of Unit 1 expected

By Jim Harper  
Staff Writer

Carolina Power and Light Co. is expected to tell the Nuclear Regulatory Commission today (Wednesday) that Brunswick nuclear plant Unit 1 will be ready for restart before the end of the month, ending a 22-month shutdown.

Roy Anderson, vice-president in charge of the Brunswick plant, said Tuesday that in today's NRC conference he will say the restart will be done "with accuracy before speed."

"The reactor is reassembled," Anderson said, "the moisture separators and dryers are installed, the head is on the reactor and we are making preparations to do a hydrostatic test of the reactor."

"We're finished with system turn-overs, finished with operability checks, and that puts us on schedule to start on January 28. But if things go as good as they have been, it could be the 25th."

Brunswick's Unit 1 was shut down  
See Unit-1, page 6

*Unit 1 was scheduled for refueling and restart in the fall, but discovery of cracks in the reactor shroud dictated major repairs*



Southport public works employee Dickie Marlowe removes a cracked valve from the city's water tank Monday morning after sub-freezing temperatures ruptured the uninsulated valve. The city installed a new, insulated valve that will withstand low

temperatures, like Sunday night's record ten degrees. The water system did not have to be shut down for repair because water pressure was low enough to conduct the repair safely, said water system superintendent Kenny Price.

Photo by Jim Harper

## Going up the coast

# Johnson steps down as beach town manager

By Holly Edwards  
Municipal Editor

Long Beach town manager Tim Johnson announced Tuesday night he will resign effective February 14 to resume his former position as town manager of Belhaven, a small coastal community in Beaufort County.

"This is just an opportunity for me to more or less go home," he told the council. "I have no ill-will towards the Town of Long Beach. I love it here."

Town clerk Pat Brunnell will serve as interim town manager until a replacement for Johnson is found.

Johnson has been Long Beach town manager since September, 1992, and was Belhaven town manager from 1984 to 1990. He said he decided to return to Belhaven because it is his wife's hometown and it is a "hunting and fishing mecca."

"I've done a lot of deliberation on it, and I honestly feel it's the best move for my family at this time," he said.

Johnson said all of his wife's friends and family are in Belhaven, and that he has had some regrets about leaving his own personal friends there.

Although Johnson indicated the See Long Beach, page 7

# 911 dead spots create a crisis

By Terry Pope  
County Editor

What if an earthquake struck Brunswick County?

If it happened, local emergency responders wouldn't be properly equipped to deal with such a disaster, the director of Brunswick County Emergency Services told county commissioners Tuesday night.

Dead spots in pager and radio systems often block communications in the Southport, Calabash and Leland areas, said Doug Ledgett.

"If we had to talk to everybody in the county at one time, right now, we would have a problem," he said.

"If we don't have adequate communications during a disaster, then we've got all kinds of problems. But you hope that you never have to deal with an earthquake."

A committee will study how the county can correct problems in its 911 equipment, which often disrupts emergency signals operating on the same frequency in Carteret County, 90 miles away.

At the same time, local signals often fail to reach rescue squad volunteers and firemen less than 20 miles from the 911 center near Bolivia.

*'If we don't have adequate communications during a disaster, then we've got all kinds of problems. But you hope that you never have to deal with an earthquake.'*

Doug Ledgett  
Emergency director

It could cost up to \$249,000 to correct the problem that has kept county officials baffled since the 911 system came on line two years ago. Simulcast relay antennas may be installed on county-owned water towers in the Leland and Calabash areas to solve the problem.

Officials have learned that the height of radio towers and paging See Dead spots, page 9

## Cafeteria equipment sale

# Jones asks dismissal of lawsuit

By Holly Edwards  
Municipal Editor

Restaurant owner Jarvis Jones, from whom the Brunswick County Board of Education is seeking at least \$10,000 or the safe return of 46 pieces of cafeteria equipment it says Jones purchased last summer without its authorization, says the lawsuit should be dismissed.

Jones' answer to the civil lawsuit, filed by attorney Steve Yount, states that the case should be dismissed because the board of education failed to provide a "cause of action" upon which compensation should be granted.

School board attorney Glen

*'It's not theft, but it's basically taking property that belongs to someone else without having the authority to do so.'*

Glen Peterson  
School board attorney

Peterson, however, said the lawsuit maintains the sale was null and void because it was never authorized by the school board.

"It's not theft, but it's basically tak-

ing property that belongs to someone else without having the authority to do so," Peterson said.

Jones, owner of Jones' Seafood House in Long Beach, admits in the

answer that he contacted child nutrition director Rebecca Brandon on or about July 20 and asked if there was equipment for sale, that he issued a check on July 20 for \$350 to Brunswick County Schools for "several items" of equipment, and that he then sold "certain items" to New Ed's Carolina Restaurant Equipment store in Wilmington for \$7,800.

Southport police chief Bob Gray has an itemized list of 46 pieces of cafeteria equipment removed from Southport Elementary School that were sold to Jones. The restaurant supply store, owned by Jones' nephew Ed Jones, later provided Gray with an See Jones, page 6

## Talking Newspaper' starts February 2

# Pilot service gets a dial tone

Pilot Line, a telecommunications network offered through *The State Port Pilot*, will be placed in service February 2.

By dialing one telephone number and the appropriate extension, callers can hear a pre-recorded message on a variety of topics.

"Businesses can use Pilot Line to advertise services they offer, house rentals and daily restaurants specials, but we also envision Pilot Line as a line of communication for churches with their congregations, clubs with members and schools with parents," said Ed Harper, editor of the *Pilot*.

Among the first subscribers was a Southport church that will use Pilot Line for daily updates of its prayer list and other church news. Another subscriber is providing an extension for South Brunswick High School to present information on school activities.

"The potential uses of the service are virtually unlimited," Harper continued. He said the newspaper will use some extensions to tell callers how to subscribe to the *Pilot* and place classified advertisements. A daily update of news and sporting events also is anticipated.

Among the public services the newspaper will offer are weather reports, tide tables and ferry schedules.

"It gives Southport-Oak Island residents immediate information at their fingertips," Harper said. "These services are becoming available elsewhere at an ever-increasing pace."

There is no charge for a caller to use the service, which is available 24 hours a day. *The State Port Pilot* will publish a weekly listing of subscriber extension numbers and inform callers on the use of Pilot Line.

The messages are recorded by the subscriber and can be changed as frequently as the subscriber chooses. The messages can be up to 90 seconds in length.

The first listing of subscriber extension numbers will appear in the February 2 edition of *The State Port Pilot*. Users of the network can hear more about how it works by calling 457-5084, extension 121 or 123 (subscriber information).

More information is available by contacting the newspaper advertising department, 457-4568.

## OUTSIDE



### Forecast

The extended forecast calls for partly cloudy skies and cold Thursday, with highs in the 30s and lows in the 20s. Fair skies are forecast for Friday and Saturday, with highs in the 40s but lows staying below freezing.

### Tide table

HIGH	THURSDAY, JANUARY 20	LOW
1:35 a.m.		7:52 a.m.
1:54 p.m.		8:11 p.m.
HIGH	FRIDAY, JANUARY 21	LOW
2:30 a.m.		8:52 a.m.
2:50 p.m.		9:07 p.m.
HIGH	SATURDAY, JANUARY 22	LOW
3:26 a.m.		9:11 a.m.
3:47 p.m.		10:02 p.m.
HIGH	SUNDAY, JANUARY 23	LOW
4:21 a.m.		10:47 a.m.
4:42 p.m.		11:55 p.m.
HIGH	MONDAY, JANUARY 24	LOW
5:14 a.m.		11:38 a.m.
5:34 p.m.		11:45 p.m.
HIGH	TUESDAY, JANUARY 25	LOW
6:03 a.m.		12:26 a.m.
6:23 p.m.		----- p.m.
HIGH	WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26	LOW
6:50 a.m.		12:33 a.m.
7:10 p.m.		1:11 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 Inlet, high -22, low -8.

How does Pilot Line work? Call 457-5084 from touch-tone phone, extension 123