



Sea Horse townhomes at 4611 East Beach Drive in Long Beach, already threatened by winter erosion, were severely undercut by wind-driven high tides last week that exposed long-buried tree stumps and

roots. Town officials say the 11 apartments, as well as two cottages just to the east, are unsuitable for occupancy, and plans are already underway to move one of the cottages to a new site.

Photo by Jim Harper

'Summit': There's long hill to climb

By Marybeth Bianchi
Feature Editor

After talking with people throughout the school system, assistant superintendent Oscar Blanks said he realized that schools alone can't solve the problems children face in today's society.

So last week, he invited directors of county agencies and services to Brunswick Community College to see if they'd be interested in working together to find a solution.

As a result of the Summit Conference on Children in Crisis, a task force comprised of members of the summit conference panel and representatives of other agencies will be formed to address the many and varied issues facing Brunswick County children.

"We don't want this to die," Blanks said after the three-hour summit. "Somebody's got to do something. We are losing too many children to the negative forces that are influencing them."

Blanks, who is the driving force behind the effort, has scheduled a meeting of the summit's planning committee for 3 p.m. Thursday, February 3, to discuss issues raised during the conference.

Planning committee members are

'We not only have to care, we have to start cooperating more and stop making excuses. We can correct the problem but it's going to take everyone working together.'

Jamie Orrock
DSS director

Pam Kelly, wellness coordinator; Anne Mitchell, JTPA/drop-out prevention coordinator; Marianne Furey, school social worker; Todd Parker, exceptional children's program coordinator; Glenda Browning, Brunswick County PTA council president; Lorene Williams, exceptional children's program director; Stephanna Tewey, former assistant superintendent; and Mildred Royster, Department of So-
See Summit, page 8

Crime hits home

'Whipping your butt is worth two weeks'

Second of two-part series

By Terry Pope
County Editor

On one street corner a police car is pelted with bottles and bricks as a drug deal is momentarily halted, leaving officers to watch shadows quickly scatter into the darkness.

"We've lost the war in this county," said Lt. David Crocker of the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department. He heads the narcotics and vice division which feels at times it is losing a grip.

For the action described above isn't a scene from greater Los Angeles. It's a typical weekend in the Southport or Leland community.

"We've almost lost control in certain areas," said Crocker, who invited state legislators for a drive through

'If you don't give them an alternative they will continue. We can't catch them the second or third time. They get wiser.'

Lt. David Crocker

some of the tougher neighborhoods to get a first-hand look at crime. The N. C. General Assembly will go to work Tuesday, February 8, in a special session in Raleigh to debate Gov. Jim Hunt's 36-point plan to toughen state

laws against crime, increase prison space for criminals and revise programs for juvenile offenders.

It is a \$90-million package that has gained public approval, for many people believe more needs to be done to combat crime in North Carolina, which ranked 16th among 50 states in 1992 for violent crime incidents. Local officers say they have watched both defendants and their victims lose respect for laws and the justice system.

"Most of them are the same people that we arrest over and over again," said Crocker. "We see some new faces every now and then. There needs to be some kind of training programs involved to teach them another way of life."

Teenagers can earn \$50 to \$100 within minutes selling drugs on street
See Crime, page 8

Filing deadline Monday

Two incumbents on the Brunswick County Board of Education head the recent list of candidates to file for public office.

Donna Baxter, 45, of District 4, recently returned her residence to Boiling Spring Lakes following a stay on Oak Island. The Democratic chairman filed for re-election on Monday.

Also, Polly G. Russ, 43, filed Friday and hopes to regain her District 2 seat. Both will face opposition in the May 3 Democratic primary. Retired sheriff's deputy Liston Hawes, 57, of Ash has also filed for Baxter's seat.

Ms. Russ will face opposition from a former school board member, George Wilson, 66, of Supply, who filed
See Deadline, page 6

CP&L restart delayed again

By Jim Harper
Staff Writer

Misunderstanding between Brunswick nuclear plant operators and CP&L physicists delayed restart of Unit 1 Monday evening, but Brunswick vice-president Roy Anderson said Tuesday that rod-pull was expected to commence at 5:30 p.m., and nuclear fission was expected to begin about six hours later.

Anderson said that on Monday evening the specified number of control rods were pulled, exposing fuel so fission could commence, and nothing happened. He said operators immediately halted the restart process. A physicist was consulted, and operators were told that pulling a few more rods -- exposing more fuel in the reactor -- should begin the nuclear reaction.

That reaction, magnified many times, heats water and creates steam which turns the unit's turbine and generates electricity.

"The unit has been down some two years," Anderson said Tuesday, "and it has lost some of its reactivity -- some of the plutonium decayed away."

Anderson said that calculations indicated that the Unit 1 reactor would now
See CP&L, page 6

Pilot Line is now taking calls

Pilot Line, a telecommunications network that gives access to recorded messages on a variety of topics by dialing one telephone number and selecting the appropriate extension, is in service today. "We're excited to offer this service," said Ed Harper, editor of The State Port Pilot. "We're excited about the possibilities."

The Pilot Line number is 457-5084. Extensions already in use are listed in a full-page advertisement on page 7. There is no charge to access the service.

Harper said Pilot Line will be used not only by callers seeking information from businesses -- "like restaurants, travel agents and real estate companies" -- but also by those wanting information about the Southport-Oak Island area in general.

"One line presents information about the Southport Maritime Museum and another gives the ferry schedule," Harper noted. "We will add more public service lines in the next few weeks, offering daily tide tables, weather forecasts. The possibilities are almost

See Pilot Line, page 6

CP&L sponsors lines for school classrooms

Pilot Line offers some good news for concerned parents, and students who stay on top of their studies.

Parents can find out their children's homework assignments by making a simple phone call -- anytime, day or night. That means some students will no longer be able to get away with telling Mom and Dad there's no homework tonight when they can give Pilot Line a call at 457-5084 and selecting the appropriate extension. Pilot Line can also keep students who are absent from falling behind in their school work.

On the homework lines, teachers have 90 seconds to tell
See Classrooms, page 6

OUTSIDE



Tide table

HIGH	THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 3	LOW
1:15 a.m.		7:27 a.m.
1:29 p.m.		7:43 p.m.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4		
2:20 a.m.		8:34 a.m.
2:35 p.m.		8:49 p.m.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 5		
3:26 a.m.		9:40 a.m.
3:41 p.m.		9:53 p.m.
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6		
4:30 a.m.		10:41 a.m.
4:44 p.m.		10:53 p.m.
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7		
5:28 a.m.		11:36 a.m.
5:42 p.m.		11:48 p.m.
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8		
6:21 a.m.		12:26 a.m.
6:34 p.m.		--- p.m.
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9		
7:09 a.m.		12:38 a.m.
7:21 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.

Forecast

The extended forecast calls for partly cloudy skies Thursday with a high in the upper 40s and a low of 30. Sunny skies prevail Friday with lows dropping at night to the mid-20s. Saturday expect mostly cloudy skies with a high in the mid-50s and a low in the mid-30s.