

Jobs

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velopment Commission director Tom Monks. "A lot of local people just aren't able to compete with folks coming in from other areas."

Monks said limited job opportunities in the county have led many people to take jobs beneath their skill levels. For example, he said 75 percent of the first workers hired by Caterpillar to perform assembly line work had two- or four-year college degrees.

Long Beach resident David Buchman said that improving education has become a "catch phrase" in Brunswick County, while few people offer any specific goals that should be established within the school system.

"We can tell someone they're sick but it's still difficult to cure them," Buchman said. "There's no simple solution to complex problems.... Some of our young people can only see dead-end jobs at McDonald's and Hardee's."

Brunswick Community College president Mike Reaves noted that workers can now expect to change jobs four to seven times in their lifetimes, whereas in the 1950s and '60s most middle-class workers went to work at a factory and stayed there until they retired.

Today, Reaves said, employers are looking for employees with the "critical thinking skills" required to adapt to new jobs and new technology.

County commissioner Leslie Collier pointed out that the newly organized Communities In Schools project is pulling together county resources and making them available to county schools.

"There have been many efforts to bring the community into schools in the past, but they've all hit dead ends," Collier said. "But, right now, Communities In Schools is seriously trying to put our community into our schools."

Many in the audience said one of the biggest economic assets of the county is its natural resources, which attract thousands of retirees and tourists to the county every year.

"One method of job creation is through retirees," said Jack Redmond of Boiling Spring Lakes. "Over 50 percent of all new homes built in Boiling Spring Lakes last year were built by retirees, and that feeds back all through the community. In addition, they spend their pensions here, they keep their savings here, and they don't have any children in school so their

'Some employers have said they've hired high school graduates from Brunswick County that can't read a ruler. A lot of local people just aren't able to compete with folks coming in from other areas.'

Tom Monks
EDC director

demands on the community aren't that great."

Redmond cautioned that too much industrial growth will discourage retirees from selecting Brunswick County as their home.

Brunswick County Airport manager Howie Franklin also pointed out that the county's natural resources attract some very upscale visitors.

"We have multi-millionaires that fly in here incognito. They could go anywhere in the world but they come to Southport," Franklin said. "I ask them why they came to Southport, and they say, 'Where else can I bring my children? I come for the climate, the lifestyle, the natural resources.'"

Brunswick County Airport com-



Inmates from the N. C. Department of Corrections unit at New Hanover County Monday installed experimental dune replenishment fencing along a 1,200-foot stretch of Caswell Beach, beginning at the

town limits and extending beyond Oak Island Beach Villas. Earlier, inmates put out a half-ton of fertilizer on dunes extending from the public access parking lot to Town Hall.

missioner Bob Miller said the airport is growing along with the county. Two corporate hangars were recently constructed, he said, and two more will soon be built.

Miller also urged county commissioners to support airport construction of a building to house 20 airplanes. That would encourage more people to fly into and spend money in Brunswick County, Miller said.

"We have about 1,000 landings per year of aircraft not stored at the airport," Miller said. "And on average each person that lands a plane and stays the night spends about \$200."

What will be the jobs of the future in Brunswick County?

With the rapidly growing retiree population, some residents agreed that home health care providers and physical therapists will be in greater demand.

Dosher Memorial Hospital marketing director Margaret Rivera said the hospital is taking steps to improve the health of older persons in the county through education and preventive maintenance.

She also said the hospital has been hurt economically by the county's health insurance plan which effectively steers patients to The Brunswick Hospital for lower rates.

"County employees that live here will drive to Wilmington rather than go to Shallotte for health care," Rivera said.

Other jobs of the future listed by county residents include construction workers, golf course managers, landscape artists, greenskeepers, food service workers, marine scientists, fishermen, environmental engineers, retail sales clerks and real estate agents.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Collier said the board of commissioners will seriously consider recommendations of the public when reviewing the Long-Range Planning Committee's final report.

"I may not agree with it personally, but if it's what the citizens want then I'll support it," she said.

Renovation
Continued from page 1
structure in downtown Southport.

Two letters of interest were submitted -- one from Port City Builders and the other from David M. Sidbury of Charlotte. The hospital did not request specific bid amounts on the project because there are "too many unknowns" with the renovation project, said Stephanie Van Noordt, an architectural intern with John Sawyer Architects. Instead, contractors were asked to submit their basic construction rates.

heavily damaged by fire in December, 1995, and Van Noordt said neither the architect nor the contractor will know exactly what they're dealing with until the project is underway.

Sawyer recommended Port City Builders because of its wage rates and overhead and profit percentages.

When the contract is finalized with Port City Builders next week, Van Noordt said, an upper cost limit will be established on the project.

John Sawyer estimated the renovation project would cost \$275,000, well below the \$337,000 maximum insurance coverage available to renovate the structure.

The contractor agreed to begin the project within 30 days, and Van Noordt said renovations will take six to eight months to complete.

Shrugs off

Continued from page 2
Beach lots for a "beach access."

On the strength of that recollection Davis had an attorney write Bradshaw, with copies to other councilmen, asking payment of the \$100,000. Subsequently Davis has said, "I told the lawyer to get the \$100,000. Tom Bradshaw will be sued."

That attorney's letter was the pretext for a second closed session on the matter on October 4.

Davis' attorney, Michael Mills of Wilmington, was in Saturday's audience and participated in questioning the mayor and council regarding plans for renourishment of badly eroding South Beach.

It is not known whether Mills made demand for payment while on his island visit.

The questioning came in a public hearing regarding the council's plan to borrow money for short-term financing of planned renourishment, with the issue being clouded as the figure of \$3.1 million for the project was mentioned.

"We wouldn't envision doing \$3 million," Bradshaw told the audience. "The bank wouldn't loan us \$3 million."

Bradshaw did say the project could cost more than the \$1.4-million figure most often mentioned.

Finally the council passed a reso-

FALL BACK

Sunday, October 29, 2:00 a.m.



lution with a clause keeping the loan amount under \$1 million.

The council voted to hold a special session at 9:30 a.m. November 11 to discuss the assessment process which is expected to raise \$472,000 of the \$1.4 million budgeted for the renourishment program. Bids for both renourishment and installation of the fabric tubes which will serve as groins are to be opened November 7.

The council Saturday also approved zoning changes reducing the maximum height of buildings in the marina area from 55 to 50 feet, reducing the permissible height of multi-family structures from 55 to 45 feet and making minor changes in zoning maps to conform with boundaries established in the sale of some development land to the state as a maritime forest preserve.

Opinion

Continued from page 4

fence without spacing between the boards, after I obtained a building permit with him specifying that spacing was not required between the boards. This occurred after construction was in progress.

Later in the article, Nubel quotes me as saying, "It says if it allows any light at all to pass through, it is a transparent fence." The ordinance does not define "transparent," and I did not say otherwise.

Nubel then quotes me as saying, "... some 26 other non-transparent privacy fences are allowed to exist in the city in violation of the ordinance." The actual statement was, "The existence of the 26 fences appears to constitute a valid interpretation of the ordinance." I did not say the fences were in

violation of the ordinance.

John Reinsburrow
Southport

Beach vehicles

To the Editor:

I question the wisdom of allowing four-wheel-drive vehicles on the west end of Long Beach.

Children play here in complete abandon and safety. They fly kites, pitch horseshoes, play ball and other fun things kids do. This is the last pristine area as yet undisturbed by vehicles and/or overcrowding. I've been shelling here for many years, and don't find it a chore to walk to the water, even carrying an umbrella, chair and picnic lunch. I'm 71.

I ask the citizens of Long Beach who love this area, and wish to keep it as it is, to let their disapproval of this new ruling be known.

Mrs. Connie Watson
Long Beach

The Point?

To the Editor:

Thanks to the four councilmen who voted for the four-wheel-drive permits for access to "The Point". At last we residents who enjoy fishing can more easily do so with this action.

A few weeks before last week's primary election two public piers were promised to be built. Now, a few weeks before the general election we are promised access to "The Point" by paid permit. As of Friday, October 20, it still remained a promise.

I hope these promises turn into reality and aren't just a play to get votes.

Karen Zavetsky
Long Beach

Tebo Rogers

To the Editor:

On October 15, 1995, I lost a dear friend to a dreadful disease called cancer.

Tebo Rogers was not only my friend, he was anyone's friend that would let him be. I watched Tebo through his sickness of over a year and a half. As each day passed, you could see he was not feeling well but he never complained.

Tebo was an asset to our community, he was in youth sports programs for over 20 years in Southport and Brunswick County.

On the night before they took him to the hospital I visited with him in his home. I knew time was short for Tebo but again he never com-

plained. As we sat and talked that evening he still had the same way of expressing himself with a smile and a joke. I am going to miss him.

I know I lost a dear friend.
Billy Drew
Southport

'Spirit Week'

To the Editor:

The South Brunswick High School Student Government Association held its annual "Spirit Week" October 9-13. The week consisted of class competitions, dress days, lunchtime activities and a special inspirational assembly on Friday.

The week was a great success and would not have been possible without the help of many people. A special thanks to students, staff, faculty, band, cheerleaders and our adviser, Ms. Denton.

We would like to recognize the following businesses for their outstanding support: Lowe's, Little Professor Book Center, Hair Masters, Wilson's, Swayne's Garden Arts and Crafts, Kristi and Jeanne of Headhunters Salon, Colleen's Collectibles Flowers and Gifts, UCB, Wine and Roses, Sweettreat, Mill Creek Florist, The Deck, Rite Aid, Morrison's Cafeteria, Debra Foote of BeautiControl Cosmetics, The Flower Patch, Russell's Place Restaurant, The Gauntlet, Brunswick County Parks and Recreation Department, New York Deli, Hardee's of Southport and Yaupon Beach, Western Sizzlin', McDonald's, Sandfiddler Restaurant, Ship's Chandler Restaurant, Burger King, KFC, Bert's Surf Shop, and Y's Cafe.
Tiffany English
SGA secretary

Scout thanks

To the Editor:

This is to thank all those who participated in the bake sale held by Cub Scout Pack 238 on Saturday, October 14. We really appreciate the continued support of the community.

We would like to say a special "thank you" to the staff of Roses for allowing us to use their sidewalk.

Our most sincere appreciation is extended to those citizens of the community who purchased our baked goods, and to the parents of scouts who donated their time and talents.

Fay Bass
Cub Scout Pack 238

Turtle Watch

To the Editor:

The 1995 sea turtle season is over. Thanks to our 125 dedicated volunteers, parents and team members, we released 4,264 loggerhead hatchlings.

However, 1995 did prove to be a very interesting year. Mother Nature showed that only she knows what the nesting females and their hatchlings will do next.

While sea turtle hatchlings normally emerge from their nest 55 to 90 days after the nest is laid, this summer, nest parents began to watch their nest on the 50th day and some hatchlings arrived as early as 46 days. A majority of hatchlings normally emerge from the nest the same night, but this summer nests hatched over days and sometimes weeks.

Although some people believe we had a low number of nests (50) that is not the case at all. Sea turtles nest every two to three years and Long Beach had 56 recorded nests in 1992.

The sea turtles did have a few problems this summer. First, they had to deal with the weather and we lost several nests to erosion and overwash. Some nests were covered by as much as four feet of sand.

We want to thank all of our volunteer parents and team members. This program could not continue without you.

Tina Pritchard
Long Beach Turtle Watch coordinator

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