

Future

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desert." Jennings also said that the progress of all races depends upon racial harmony. "Our love for each other is false if it's not spread across the entire spectrum," he said. "We must enlist the friendship of other races because it's morally correct. No man is an island and neither is any race."

Jennings told the crowd that the black community has all the elements it needs to be successful, but that apathy and complacency have drained the life from black communities.

Other NAACP panel guests echoed Jennings' concerns.

"The truth is a lot of people in this area don't do much of anything when it comes to helping each other out," declared Jonathan Hankins, a retired Brunswick County school principal. "They don't go to these meetings, they don't vote. All of you have the opportunity to participate through voting."

Ralph Parker, University of North Carolina at Wilmington minority affairs director, also noted that the current generation of black teenagers will be the first generation of black youths to make less progress than their parents.

"Unless we do something, what we think is a bad situation now will become even worse," Parker declared.

South Brunswick High School student David Caine, speaking as a representative of youths in the community, said that black American history and culture is virtually ignored in county public schools.

"As a youth in the school system, I can tell you everything about the history of Japan, Mexico and China, but I just can't tell you about black American history," Caine said. "But black history is a part of American history. Some people don't even know that the first person to perform open-heart surgery was a black man, and that's sad."

Jennings urged members of the audience to take responsibility for its own history.

"Folks, it's up to us, the school board's not going to do it for us," Jennings proclaimed. "Why can't we in the black community do some supplemental things and take some responsibility away from our schools? We're the ones who are in the best position to give our children a sense of their culture."

South Brunswick assistant principal William Hargrove also noted that some black students and parents -- as well as some teachers -- simply "don't care."

"We have trouble getting some parents to come in and talk to us when their children are having problems," Hargrove said. "In the school system, we also see young black people who don't care, and we see teachers in the school system who do not care. It seems to me that some of these students are looking for someone who cares."

Southport resident Eugene Gore, a longtime NAACP member, added that the black community is continuing to decline and urged the younger generation to get involved to lift the black community up.

"We have less black businesses today than when I was born. Today, you can't even buy a loaf of bread or a gallon of gasoline from a black man," Gore said.

"You younger people should come out and do something for our youths as we older people have tried to do. It disturbs me that we have been going backward definitely since the Reagan administration, and we'll keep on going back until we vote."



About 100 people filled the ILA Hall in Southport Friday night for a community forum hosted by the Brunswick County chapter of the NAACP. Local black leaders urged those attending the forum to get

involved in their communities and help save future generations of black Americans from the problems of drugs, crime, poverty and illiteracy.



Local NAACP president Nat Parker congratulates Lillian McMillan after she was presented the "Mother of the Year" award for raising \$1,000 for the national NAACP office. McMillan also was presented an award for service to the NAACP. Others who received awards for serving the NAACP for over 20 years were George Coatney, Eugene Gore, Harry Orie Gore, Annabelle Williams, Herbert Bryant, Jesse Bryant, Irene Hankins, Lizzie Mitchell, Ludolphia Rogers, Charles Rogers and Laura Smith-Gore.

Shipment

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standards and regulations. The MV Le Bougenuals, a French-flagged commercial ship, arrived at Sunny Point in the early morning hours Thursday. The spent fuel rods were offloaded from the vessel and placed onto rail cars after both federal and state inspections were completed.

It was all pretty much routine, reported Jim Giusti, spokesman for the U. S. Department of Energy in Washington, DC.

"The transfer operations, safety inspections and radiological surveys took slightly more than two and a half hours to complete," said Giusti.

DOE brought the rods back to the United States for safe keeping as part of a plan to rid the world of bomb-grade uranium, for fear the rods will fall into the wrong hands overseas and be used to produce nuclear weapons. The highly enriched uranium contained in the rods can be used to manufacture bombs.

The rods were shipped along rail lines to Robeson County for their final leg of the journey southward to Aiken, SC, to DOE's Savannah River

storage facility. A judgment reached by the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in August ruled DOE had fulfilled its responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act by completing an environmental assessment to cover both the shipment and the storage of fuel rods. South Carolina officials attempted to block the shipment and claimed DOE's plan did not cover the long-term storage of rods in underwater containers at Aiken.

Last Thursday, the dedicated train carrying the three sealed casks and armed escorts departed Sunny Point around 8:55 a.m. along an NRC-approved rail route of more than 350 miles. It took slightly more than 17 hours for the train to reach Aiken, crossing the boundary there at 1:49 a.m. on Friday.

DOE reported the rods reached the classification yard at Savannah River at 3:20 a.m. The original shipment was expected to contain 153 elements, but before the court ruling in August German officials signed an agreement to ship their supply from the Berlin-based Hahn-Meitner Institute to a reprocessing plant in Scotland.

This marked the last shipment under DOE's one-time emergency relief program to accept stockpiled fuel elements that are used in research facilities, mostly in the medical profession. Elements were originally purchased by the countries with the understanding they would be returned by DOE to the United States when

they are discarded.

At the Savannah River site, the transportation packages were transferred to flatbed trailers and were transported to a staging area for off-site fuels. Unloading operations for the first cask was to begin this week.

The Swiss cask will be unloaded in October and the two Greece containers in November. The rods must be stored in underwater bins to prevent contamination.

Fuel rods today are made with a lower-grade uranium and are not as vulnerable to terrorists who may seek the material to produce weapons.

DOE is continuing work on its larger Environmental Impact Statement on a proposed nuclear weapons non-proliferation policy covering an additional 24,000 foreign research rods that need to be returned. Sunny Point is one of several East Coast ports being studied as the possible port of entry.

A decision on that is expected before the end of the year. It will take 13 years to return the 24,000 elements.

Salary

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which classified employees could earn performance pay increases for the first time. Davis noted, however, that the number of underpaid classified employees in the school system is so large that it will probably take a year before funding is available to implement a performance pay plan.

Some long-time employees who have been in the same position for years earn the same salary as newly hired employees in the same position, Davis noted.

The plan proposes the following annual salary ranges:

■Education-Health department -- teacher assistant, \$14,448 to \$21,888; media assistant, \$15,924 to \$24,132; Choices assistant I, \$15,168 to \$22,980; Choices assistant II, \$15,924 to \$24,132; bilingual interpreter, \$16,716 to \$25,344; educational interpreter, \$17,556 to \$26,616; parent facilitator I, \$15,168 to \$22,980; parent facilitator II, \$16,716 to \$25,344; occupational therapy assistant, \$20,328 to \$30,804; occupational therapist, \$36,504 to \$55,344.

■Office Services department -- delivery warehouseman, \$15,158 to \$22,980; office services II, \$15,924 to \$24,132; office services III, \$17,556 to \$26,616; office services IV, \$18,432 to \$27,948; executive secretary, \$21,348 to \$30,804; personnel technician, \$20,328 to \$30,804.

■Finance department -- accounting technician, \$17,556 to \$26,616; accounting specialist, \$19,356 to \$29,340; payroll supervisor, \$20,328 to \$30,804; assistant finance officer,

\$25,532 to \$35,664; purchasing agent, \$22,416 to \$33,960.

■Data department -- TMS operator, \$16,716 to \$25,344; SIMS operator, \$16,716 to \$25,344; data manager, \$21,348 to \$32,340; computer coordinator, \$30,036 to \$45,528.

■Executive-Managerial department -- child nutrition director, \$28,608 to \$43,356; personnel director, \$33,108 to \$50,196; maintenance director, \$33,108 to \$50,196; transportation director, \$33,108 to \$50,196; finance officer, \$36,504 to \$52,704; technology director, \$38,328 to \$58,116.

■Labor-Trades-Mechanical department -- custodian I, \$13,764 to \$20,844; custodian II, \$14,448 to \$21,888; general utility worker, \$15,924 to \$24,132; groundskeeper I, \$14,448 to \$21,888; groundskeeper II, \$15,924 to \$24,132; painter, \$18,432 to \$27,948; plumber I, \$17,556 to \$26,616; plumber II, \$19,356 to \$29,340; carpenter I, \$17,556 to \$26,616; carpenter II, \$19,356 to \$29,340; electrician, \$19,356 to \$29,340; HVAC technician I, \$18,432 to \$27,948; HVAC technician II, \$19,356 to \$29,340; maintenance supervisor, \$22,416 to \$33,960; mechanic I, \$17,556 to \$26,616; mechanic II, \$19,356 to \$29,340; transportation shop supervisor, \$22,416 to \$33,960; printer, \$18,432 to \$27,948.

■Technical-Scientific department -- water quality technician, \$19,356 to \$29,340; electronics technician, \$21,348 to \$32,340; electronics technician II, \$22,416 to \$33,960.

■Child Nutrition department -- child nutrition assistant, \$13,764 to \$20,844; child nutrition assistant manager, \$14,448 to \$21,888; child nutrition manager, \$16,716 to \$25,344; child nutrition supervisor, \$19,356 to \$29,340.

Zoning

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Coastal Estates when he heard of the hearing. "I found out about this the day before yesterday," said Moore. "It's kind of short notice to be making a change. I don't know whether I am for it or not. I don't know what's going on here."

A swamp provides a natural boundary between the commercial

zone and houses in the subdivisions, said Ward.

In other business, a special exception hearing on a request to allow multiple buildings on one lot in a commercial low-density (C-LD) zone at the Oak Island Fun Park on Long Beach Road was postponed last week.

Kevin Jones wants to add two go-cart tracks, a ball court and parking lot to the south of the existing facility.

Another special exception hearing requested by Michael Tessari was postponed as well. He wants to build a 13,000-square-foot commercial building in a C-LD zone on the south side of N. C. 211 just east of Trail's End Road. The C-LD zone doesn't normally allow buildings in excess of 10,000 square feet.

Both matters may be heard at the planning board's November 15 meeting.

Marina site

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boost revenue, Stewart pointed out that the present Moore Street facility could be placed on the market to help offset costs and that Indigo Plantation could be "returned to a legitimate residential development" with possible increased sales there.

He also noted that the largest of the Indigo parking lots, elevated ground created with spoil from the marina overlooking Dutchman Creek, is permitted for townhome development and is being used temporarily for parking.

"People on Bald Head should appreciate what this means," Stewart said. "Among the benefits to us is that the new marina would be a bit closer to the island than Indigo is."

"We've already had environmental management and coastal management people down here looking at the site," Stewart said, "and they have led us to believe that this is a permitable project."

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