

Brunswick Organizes Trip To Florida Composting Facility

BY RAHN ADAMS

Faced with tighter state regulations on solid waste management, Brunswick County officials are quickly covering a lot of ground—literally—in search of viable options on how the county will get rid of garbage.

Five county representatives were to be among a 10-member North Carolina delegation that was to tour an innovative solid waste recycling facility in Dade County, Fla., Wednesday (Jan. 10).

Brunswick County Agricultural Extension Service Chairman Milton Coleman, who organized the trip, said the local group was to include Commissioners Gene Pinkerton and Kelly Holden; county engineer Robert Tucker; and county Solid Waste Advisory Board members Jesse Clemmons and Wilbur Earp.

Other individuals to participate in the tour were N.C. Department of Economic and Community Development officials Paul Crissman and Gordon Layton; Dr. Bob Rubin of N.C. State University; and representatives from the three-county area of Craven, Pamlico and Carteret counties, and the four-county area of Alexander, Burke, Caldwell and Catawba counties, said Coleman.

The delegation was to leave the Brunswick County Airport near Southport Wednesday at 7:30 p.m., for the 2 1/2-hour flight to the Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., airport. The group was scheduled to return here by 5:30 p.m. Wednesday.

"We feel like it's going to be a wise expenditure for the information we can pick up there and use here," Coleman said Friday. "We hope that from what I've seen and read, it's a (waste disposal) concept that the county can use." He estimated that the cost of the trip would be approximately \$1,500—the county's share to rent a 10-passenger Economic and Community Development airplane from the state.

In Florida, the group was to spend at least four hours Wednesday touring a commercial composting operation that has been contracted by Dade County to help dispose of solid waste in South Florida. Coleman said the plant went into operation last summer and now processes approximately 600 tons of garbage per day. Dade County produces about 3,000 tons of solid waste per day.

The plant's marketable product is an "amendment" material that can be used to enhance the water-holding

capacity of soil, said Coleman, observing that composted material produced by a plant in Jamaica was used to landscape Disneyworld in Orlando, Fla.

Coleman also arranged for the group to meet with Dr. George Fitzpatrick, a researcher with the Florida Agricultural Extension Service at the University of Florida. Fitzpatrick is an expert on composting.

Composting is an established disposal process in Europe but has just gotten a foothold in the United States, Coleman noted. Videotaped television news reports that were viewed by the Solid Waste Advisory Board in September labeled the Dade County composting operation as one that seemed "too good to be true."

According to the Department of Agricultural Communications at N.C. State University, the composting process ordinarily begins with the separation of metal and glass from refuse. The garbage is then run through a grinder, which chops it into small pieces. The material is formed into a windrow and treated to allow microbial decomposition before a second tilling. Ordinary composting takes two to three months to complete.

The process at the Dade County plant apparently is

different from ordinary composting, since the facility can compost garbage in a 21-day cycle, Coleman said. He also speculated that some pre-sorting of garbage is done there, even though he has heard that the plant has equipment that can pulverize even large, metal appliances.

Interest in composting was sparked in Florida by the Florida Legislature's decision in 1988 to require that 30 percent of the state's garbage be recycled by 1994. A similar law was passed last year by the North Carolina General Assembly. North Carolina's goal is for 25 percent of the state's waste "stream" to be recycled by 1993.

Coleman emphasized that composting is only one of several garbage disposal options being looked at by the Solid Waste Advisory Board, which was established last spring. Subcommittees have been formed to study several other areas including recycling, incineration, a new transfer station plan and public education.

Coleman, who serves as staff support for the advisory board, said of innovative garbage techniques, "If you've got the best mousetrap, you're going to be in a good position—if you're on the ground floor."

County Approves Ordinance

(Continued From Page 1-A)

ABC board applicants, if individual commissioners need help in finding qualified appointees.

Commissioners had no problems making appointments to seven other county boards Monday, including: Southeastern Brunswick County Sanitary District Board—Thomas Bowmer, Edna Canady, Jimmy Price, James "Bubba" Smith and Jamie Wilson; Emergency Medical Services Board—Charles Prizer, H.L. Johnson Jr. and George Malone;

Also, Board of Health—Christopher Moshoures; Airport Commission—Robert Williams; Register of Deeds Advisory Board—Patricia Fox, Tom Morgan, Janet Shires, William Carter and Virginia Byrd; and Clean County Committee—Susanne Sattelle, George Booth, Pam Tyner, Maggie Ratford, Chance Scrantom, Joseph Beatty, Lou Erway, William Dunn and Frank Smith.

Commissioners also held a 30-minute executive session Monday

to discuss "personnel." After the closed-door conference, the board voted 4-1 to give Clegg a 15-percent raise, since he has served as both county attorney and county manager since the firing of County Manager John Smith Dec. 4. Clegg's new salary is approximately \$54,800 per year.

Ludlum opposed the salary increase, saying he felt Clegg should be given a "lump sum" for the time he serves as county manager, but not a permanent pay reclassification.

The board scheduled a joint work session with the county planning board and Parks and Recreation Director Bobby Jones Thursday, Jan. 25, at 6:30 p.m., in Bolivia. The group will discuss the county's proposed shoreline access plan and long-range parks and recreation plan.

Also, commissioners canceled their Jan. 16 regular meeting, since it would follow Monday's session by only a week. The board's next regular meeting will be held Feb. 5.



PHOTO CONTRIBUTED

CP&L Pays County Taxes

Carolina Power & Light Company paid a record \$5,042,660.93 in taxes to Brunswick County for 1989. Pictured with the check, from left, are David E. Kelly, director of external relations at the CP&L Brunswick Nuclear Plant; Nancy Moore, county tax supervisor; and David Clegg, acting county manager.

Three Events Will Honor Late Civil Rights Leader

Three Brunswick County events, all open to the general public, will pay tribute to slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., whose birthday was Jan. 15.

King rose to international prominence after leading a successful bus boycott in Montgomery, Ala. The boycott was organized after Rosa Parks, a black seamstress, refused to give up her seat near the front of a bus to a white man.

King was assassinated in Memphis, Tenn., on April 4, 1968.

His philosophy of passive resistance inspired blacks across the South to speak out for equality and justice. He received numerous awards, including, in 1964, the Nobel Peace Prize.

The first event in his honor, to be held at noon Friday, Jan. 13, in the Student Center of Brunswick Community College at Supply, will feature national columnist and television host Tony Brown. Individual members of minority organizations are to be recognized by the college for their contributions and service within the county. This is the first time BCC has presented these community service awards.

Also scheduled on the program are entertainers Jimmy Gatlin of Riegelwood, who will sing a spiritual, and BCC Visiting Artist Nnenna Freelon, who will give an interpretive performance depicting Harriet Tubman in song and prose. Tubman, an abolitionist, ran the Underground Railroad during the Civil War era.

Then Sunday, Jan. 14, the South-

port-Brunswick County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) will hold its annual Martin Luther King birthday celebration at the ILA Hall in Southport.

The Rev. Naconiel Fullwood of Bolivia, pastor of Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Wilmington, will be the guest speaker for the 3:30 p.m. event. Earlier, at approximately 3 p.m., some participants will gather about a block away for a short march to the hall.

Also on the program are the Cedar Grove Gospel Choir of Supply and the Dynamic Luther Small Singers of Southport.

Leslie Myrie, chapter president, said he feels this tribute will help keep King's "dream" alive. The dream was described by King in a landmark speech delivered at an Aug. 28, 1963, demonstration in Washington, D.C., of 200,000 people in support of black demands for equal rights.

Said King, "I have a dream that this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed, 'We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal.'"

Also a first in the county, on Monday, Jan. 15, black youth from across the county will perform for the first time as the Brunswick County Choir, at a program commemorating King.

The 3 p.m. program will be held at the Public Assembly Building of the Brunswick County Government Center in Bolivia. It is sponsored by the Black Cultural Awareness Committee, a project of the Southport-Brunswick County and Cedar Grove chapters of the NAACP.



BROWN

Health Board Stands Firm

(Continued From Page 1-A)

have to pay for them some way."

Rhodes maintained that the non-refundable fee is reasonable "because what we're actually doing is a service, whether (the lot) is suitable or unsuitable."

The health director also reminded that the cost of doing an individual site evaluation exceeds \$35. State studies have indicated that an evaluation costs the Health Department about \$100, considering the time spent by sanitarians, secretaries and administrators.

New Fee Approved

In another matter at Monday's meeting, the health board unanimously approved a proposed \$100 annual fee to cover the costs of a new state-mandated public swimming pool inspection program that begins Feb. 1. The fee must be approved by county commissioners before it can be levied.

According to Environmental Health Supervisor John Crowder, there are approximately 50 public pools in Brunswick County. He also speculated that the new law—adopted by the N.C. General Assembly in July 1989—may also affect hot tubs and spas.

State law defines a public swimming pool as "any structure, chamber or tank containing an artificial body of water used by the public for swimming, diving, wading, recreation or therapy, together with buildings, appurtenances and equipment used in connection with the body of water, regardless of whether a fee is charged for its use."

The law does not apply to a private pool serving a single-family dwelling; to therapeutic pools used in physical therapy programs operated by licensed medical facilities or licensed physical therapists; or to "therapeutic chambers drained, cleaned and refilled after each individual use."

Based on a memorandum from sanitarian Dorian Dixon, who will handle the program locally, Crowder said each public pool may require at least two inspections per year. Inspections will be to ensure water quality, the use of safety equipment and proper documentation related to the pool, Crowder noted.

He said only two other coastal counties—Onslow and New Hanover—currently charge pool inspection fees; Dare County also is considering instituting the fee.

In response to board members' questions, Crowder said pool owners who violate the new law will be given opportunities to correct any violations. He added that the law does not provide for closing pools, unless a public health hazard exists.

Foundation Discussed

Since five board members were

absent Monday, the health board tabled until its February meeting discussion of a proposed Brunswick County Health Foundation—a non-profit agency that would raise private funds for health-related programs in the county.

Rhodes outlined the proposal and noted the foundation would be comparable to a local educational foundation that is affiliated with Brunswick County Public Schools. The Surry County Health Department has the only similar health foundation in the state, he added.

"My understanding is that it's been very successful (in Surry County)," Rhodes told the board. He said funds that are solicited by the foundation from businesses, industries and individuals could be used for "line items of any program in the Health Department."

Rhodes said that if the health board decides to pursue establishing a foundation, a committee of board members and other individuals should be formed to develop foundation by-laws and articles of incorporation.

Other Business

In other action Monday, the health board:

- Voted to recommend to commissioners adjustments in the Health Department's Medicaid fee schedule for 10 separate medical clinic and family planning services.
- Approved a clarification of septic tank inspection procedures involving connections and reconstructions of mobile home septic systems, to decrease repeated inspections of the same systems. A initial inspection will cover a new but unused system for 18 months; and an existing system for 12 months.
- Authorized a new site evaluation fee refund policy that will permit refunds for application duplications, overpayment and cancellations of site evaluation requests.

School System Seeking New Business Manager

The Brunswick County school system will be hiring a new business manager to replace Elaine Shappell.

The vacancy comes just before the school system administration begins preparing its local budget request for the 1990-91 fiscal year.

Flyers announcing the opening were printed and distributed in the Brunswick County Board of Education offices Tuesday afternoon, though one administrator described Shappell's apparent status Tuesday as "suspended."

At press time, her employment status was uncertain.

Neither Superintendent John Kaufhold nor Ms. Shappell could be reached for comment Tuesday evening. Kaufhold has a new, unpublished telephone number at his Long Beach residence. The telephone at Ms. Shappell's residence in Wilmington remained busy.

However, one school board member contacted said Tuesday night his understanding is that "incompatible management styles" led to the superintendent's decision to seek a new business manager.

"I think the reason that will be offered is something like 'not fitting the job as far as the superintendent is concerned,'" said Robert Slockett. "The way he wanted the office to operate was not the way the finance officer was operating it."

While not all board members agreed with the decision, he said, "There was nothing we could do."

As superintendent, Kaufhold has the authority to hire and fire all personnel not covered by contracts with the board of education, including the business manager.

Central office employees and at least two school board members told *The Brunswick Beacon* Tuesday that when contacted at home Tuesday morning, Shappell's husband said his wife was sick and would not be coming in to the office. Said Associate Superintendent P. R. Hankins, "I don't think anybody here has talked with her today."

Kaufhold discussed his intentions with the board of education during an hour-long executive session Monday night, Slockett confirmed Tuesday night. Members discussed attorney-client matters with their

attorney for 30 minutes, then returned to open session and voted to go back behind closed doors to discuss personnel.

Tuesday evening Personnel Director Ralph Ward said that the superintendent that afternoon had authorized him to distribute flyers announcing the vacancy, but did not apprise him of Shappell's status.

Associate Superintendent P. R. Hankins of Bolivia said Tuesday evening he understood Mrs. Shappell had been "suspended." He said no one at the central office had seen or talked directly with her Tuesday, to his knowledge.

Three of five board of education members were reached by telephone Tuesday night.

Board member Dot Worth confirmed that the board had been informed Monday night by Kaufhold of problems with operation of the business office. "We instructed him to handle it as administrator," she said, referring the reporter to Kaufhold, Chairman Doug Baxley or a fellow board member for further comment.

Board member James Clemmons referred a reporter to Kaufhold for comment, but neither Clemmons, Worth, Ward nor Hankins had a current home telephone number for the superintendent of schools.

Board Chairman Doug Baxley and Public Information Officer Gloria Yount could not be reached for comment at either office or home Tuesday evening. Board member Donna Baxter could also not be reached.

Shappell was hired in 1987 and succeeded Samuel Adcock. During her tenure, the school system attained a "clean" audit for 198-89 after having clouded audits for the previous two-year period; established a "reserve" fund; converted to a new, state-mandated computer system; established a fixed-inventory system; begun routine review of individual school accounts; and had begun transition to a purchase order system.

However, for at least the past several months, one board member acknowledged, the school system office has been receiving calls and letters from vendors complaining of unpaid bills.

Newspaper Taps Easley As State's Top 'Drug Buster'

Thirteenth District Attorney Michael Easley of Southport recently was honored by a national publication for his work in fighting drug trafficking in North Carolina.

Easley, who is seeking the Democratic nomination in this year's U.S. Senate race, was named to *USA Today's* "Fifty-State Roll of Honor" as North Carolina's nominee for the newspaper's "Drug Buster" awards, which were announced Dec. 27, 1989. "I am glad the work we've done in the 13th Judicial District of North Carolina and across the state is being recognized by the rest of the nation," Easley said in a news release. "Drugs are eating away at the core of our society."

Approximately 450 individuals across the nation were nominated for the awards. Easley was the only prosecutor named to the honor roll, according to his campaign office in Raleigh. The district attorney told the *Beacon* last Thursday that he did not know who submitted his name to the nationwide newspaper.

Easley's listing in the publication stated that he "pushed for laws to

catch drug dealers" and "warns (that) rights should not be violated in zeal to stamp out drugs."

He was the first prosecutor in the state to use investigative grand juries to indict drug traffickers. North Carolina's first two investigative grand juries were seated in Brunswick County in 1987 and 1988. Since then, other investigative grand juries have indicted drug dealers here, as well as elsewhere in the 13th District and the state.



EASLEY

"Drug dealers are not above the law, as much as they think they are," Easley said. "Our office has shown you can put drug dealers away without abusing the Constitution. That's important to the people of North Carolina."

Easley also developed the special drug prosecutor program and has worked to obtain federal and state monies to hire two special assistant district attorneys. One such drug prosecutor, William Wolak, is assigned with investigative grand jury probes throughout the state.

Warmer Weather On Tap Locally

Slightly warmer temperatures and a normal level of precipitation are expected in the Charlotte area over the next several days, according to Charlotte Point meteorologist Jackson Canady.

Temperatures through the weekend should average from around 40 at night to around 60 during the day. Rainfall is expected to measure about one-half inch.

For the period of Jan. 2 through 8, the daily average temperature was 51 degrees, which Canady said was five degrees above average.

The daily average high temperature was 61 degrees, and the daily average low temperature was 41 degrees.

The maximum high temperature during the period was 70 degrees on Jan. 4. The minimum low temperature was 24 degrees on Jan. 2.

Canady measured 1.16 inches of rain during the seven-day period.

COMPLETE INTERIOR DECORATING SERVICE

- Mini blinds
- Vertical blinds
- Micro blinds
- Carpet
- Wallpaper
- Draperies
- Pictures

Ruby Floyd

Ocean Isle Interiors

Hwy. 904, #3 Seaside North
579-6091
©1986 THE BRUNSWICK BEACON

THE BRUNSWICK BEACON

Established Nov. 1, 1962
Telephone 754-6890
Published Every Thursday
At 4709 Main Street
Shalotte, N.C. 28459

SUBSCRIPTION RATES IN BRUNSWICK COUNTY

One Year	\$10.30
Six Months	\$5.50

ELSEWHERE IN NORTH CAROLINA

One Year	\$14.80
Six Months	\$7.85

ELSEWHERE IN U.S.A.

One Year	\$15.95
Six Months	\$8.35

Second class postage paid at the Post Office in Shalotte, N.C. 28459. USPS 777-780.

CLASSIFIEDS
Good News
People Can Use