

Residents take their

By Vivian Wakefield
Times-Union staff writer

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Two years ago, Vickie Southam and her neighbors wouldn't set foot in Jacksonville's North Shore Park.

Drug dealers and prostitutes filled the river-front park, littering it with condoms and needles, residents said.

"We were scared to come in here," said Southam, 57, a North Shore resident.

But last night, about 150 people gathered at the park to get to know one another and celebrate the 13th annual National Night Out, an anti-crime vigil during which residents turn on their outdoor lights and head outside.

Members of the North Shore and Cherokee

neighborhood
over hot d

dren race around on bicycles at a park they now feel comfortable in because of steps they took to rid it of crime.

After years of fearing criminals, the residents approached parks officials and the police about problems with the park and decided to take it upon themselves to close the park at 9 p.m. and open it again at 7 a.m.

They call police if they see any suspicious-looking people hanging around the area, and neighbors keep an eye out for each other.

"Pull together, that's the only way they can beat it," said Edna Oreair, 69, a Cherokee resident. "We got our neighborhood back."

Navy mulls landfill clean-up plan

We don't need to do something here!

By John Fritz
Times-Union staff writer

with dirt. The landfill was closed in 1979.

The Navy moved a step closer last night to adopting a plan to clean up an old landfill contaminated with hazardous waste at Jacksonville Naval Air Station.

At a public hearing, officials presented a \$4.2 million to \$7.3 million clean-up proposal for the landfill and an adjacent former electrical transformer storage site.

Selected as the best alternative from among five options, the plan could be finalized by the end of September, officials said. The actual cleanup could begin as early as 1998.

The Navy started dumping hazardous and non-hazardous waste, including oil, solvents and construction debris, at the site in 1940. Some of it was burned in open pits and covered

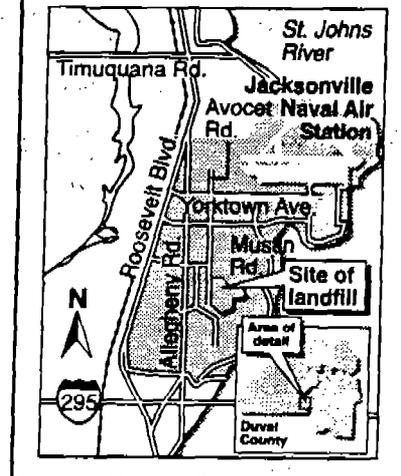
Low-level radioactive waste from the manufacture of glow-in-the-dark aircraft dials also was disposed of at the landfill from 1940 to 1950, the Navy said.

"After studying the landfill, we found pesticides, PCBs, solvents and heavy metals in the soil, ground water and sediment," said Diane Lancaster, the base installation restoration manager.

The preferred cleanup alternative is to cover the radioactive portions with a rugged, plastic-like liner, then cap the entire landfill with clean dirt and vegetation. The ground water would continue to be monitored for signs of contamination.

Proposed cleanup site

The Navy last night presented its preferred plan to clean up an old landfill and electrical transformer storage site at Jacksonville Naval Air Station. The plan is expected to cost \$4.2 million to \$7.3 million.



— Sue Bashford/staff

Prosecutor Mallory Cooper over Kathryn

Group 13. The union endorsed R. Olliff over State At. Larry Shorstein.

the legislative races, he endorsed Rep. Jim R-Jacksonville, in District 13, Rep. Steve Wise, R-ville, in District 13, George Crady, D-District 12.

tion donates \$500 to he candidates getting cement.

County teachers are Democrats in local slative races and the rney's race.

Teachers United has state Rep. Willye n the District 15

George Crady in 12, attorney John in District 16 and ara Richardson in 3.

ion also endorsed rney Shorstein.

— From staff

t of their sentences, working toward the . The Legislature en- 85 percent law last supporters want the it put in the con-

posals, ranging from that would deny ser- legal immigrants to ent that would stop ancing of political collected a fraction tures needed.

Brown 'jewel in a sea of pond scum'

s of the Florida del- se districts border John Mica and Bill

l of jewel in a sea 1," Schroeder said.

is not seeking re- s year after 12

what the issue is on the floor," Rep. Corrine Brown told a luncheon crowd this week, "I can look up there at Pat Schroeder's button and push my button the same way and know I'm doing the right thing."

A WISE SLOGAN, NO DOUBT:

"My new bumper stickers say 'Keep Wise Alive.'" — state Rep. Steve Wise R-Jackso

ville, joking about campaigning for re-election while recovering from a mild heart attack. Wise faces Democrat Tara Richardson in the District 13 race on the November ballot.

CAMPAIGN NETS CASH: Jacksonville area's state senators aren't up for re-election this fall, but Bill Bankhead and Jim Horne are out campaigning

This week, the two Republicans were on the stump for Sen. Toni Jennings of Orlando, who hopes to become the next Senate president. Bankhead and Horne accompanied Jennings to a reception this week that raised more than \$120,000 for GOP candidates on the November ballot.

Dave Roman's column appears Wednesday, Friday and Sunday. He can be reached on the phone at 359-4103 or

LIKE PAT: Some- she "is late for a resn't quite know