



Site For Proposed New Bank

Lester V. Lowe, vice-president of Waccamaw Bank and Trust Co. helps erect a sign on property for the construction of another full service bank at Southport.

The proposed location is at the junction of NC highways 211 and 87 at the Sawdust Trail.

Bank Activity In Brunswick

One new bank has made application to establish an office at Southport and Waccamaw Bank & Trust Co. has purchased property near the outskirts of the city and are seeking permission to establish a full service bank at a new location. First National Bank of Eastern North Carolina recently established a branch at Shallotte.

An application has been filed with the State Banking Commission by the First-Citizens Bank and Trust Company for approval to open a full service banking facility in Southport.

According to Lewis R. Holding, President of the statewide banking system, the application is scheduled to be heard by the State Regulatory Body during its regular meeting in January.

Lester Lowe, vice-president of Waccamaw Bank and Trust Co. announces that the Bank is

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Recount Petition Rejected; State Board Hears Appeal

By ED HARPER

Has the will of the people been denied by the Columbus County Board of Elections or precinct officials in the county?

This question was put to the three-member Board of Elections Thursday afternoon just before

the panel voted two to one to deny a recount of votes cast in the November 3 election for Democrat incumbent Arthur Williamson of Chadbourn and Thomas Harrelson of Southport, the Republican candidate for the House seat held last term by the Columbus County farmer-businessman.

Williamson leads Harrelson by two votes, 5453 to 5451, in a battle for the second House seat to represent Columbus and Brunswick counties in the North Carolina General Assembly.

The Democrat majority of the

Board, Chairman Bennett White and S.T. Enzor, voted against the recount, while Republican Leroy Stocks was in favor of tallying the votes again. Candidate Harrelson immediately filed notice of appeal to the state Board of Elections.

The petition for a recount that Harrelson presented to the Columbus County Board of Elections was supported by affidavits that alleged violations of election laws in the county. There has been no official charge that any irregularities occurred in Brunswick County, either by Harrelson or Williamson, who has remained in the background throughout the post-election controversy.

Friday, after a day-long session by the Board to hear evidence in the case, Harrelson's attorney presented his closing

argument. "We are here to pass upon one question," said Thomas Horne of Southport. "Has the will of the people of Columbus County been thwarted by any action of this board, or by any action of any precinct official?"

He suggested that the Democratic majority of the board took a defensive position and presented evidence in behalf of candidate Williamson. "It appears from my observation of what has occurred here today that the Board has come forward by affidavit and counsel in an effort to cleanse, or to remove, any stigma that might have attached to it" by Harrelson's attorney.

In doing this, Horne continued, "The Board has inadvertently or designedly advanced the cause

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The Little Lady Is A Court Officer!

By ED HARPER

Cheryl Meacham doesn't look anything at all like a probation officer.

The appearance is deceiving. The petite, 26-year old ex-schoolteacher considers her job a challenge to help people. "I like people," she said, "and in this job I can help them."

Cheryl taught school in her hometown Ellerbe for two years but found the work "too confining." In July, 1969, she and her sister Mabel moved to Whiteville and Cheryl started work with the North Carolina Department of Probation.

Her duties include work in Brunswick, Bladen and Columbus counties, and she supervises probation for approximately 70 women. She calls it "the best job in North Carolina" and adds, "I love it."

According to Cheryl, probation gives many people a chance they never had before. All things considered, "It gives a person a chance to be a good citizen."

But the probationer has to show a potential for correction and a willingness to do her part, and sometimes there is a lack of cooperation.

"I know she's running," Cheryl said in a telephone conversation recently. She was referring to a probationer who had shown little sign of improvement and had left the county. The probation officer assured the caller she was not trying to find the woman to turn her over to the Sheriff.

"I want to talk to her and see if

we can get her a place to stay. I want to help her get a job and see if we can get this thing straightened out."

Cheryl said she is concerned about the welfare of her

probationers. "I am not concerned with just seeing that they don't break any laws."

Counseling is a necessary part of Cheryl's work. "I tell the probationers to be truthful with

me, because if they don't tell me what they have done, there is always someone else who volunteers the information." She commented that many people like to see other people in trouble, and calls that report real or imagined probation violations are frequent.

"A lot of women resent being on probation," Cheryl said, "and most of them deny they did what they were found guilty of." But one woman liked probation so much she wanted to stay under supervision.

"She said it was the best her life had been," Cheryl commented about this unusual case. Apparently, the woman had found that she could manage her own life better with some supervision, and that many of the people who had bothered her before, left her alone while she was supervised by the probation officer.

Cheryl usually travels throughout the three-county area by herself, and frequently she must visit neighborhoods that could be termed "unsafe". She visits her probationers individually and asks if they have problems and if she can help with anything.

The probationers do not know when Cheryl will stop by. Recently, she visited a probationer's home in the upper part of Bladen County and learned that the probationer was working in a nearby field. Cheryl left a message and said she would



(Photo by Elgie Clemmons)

CHERYL MEACHAM... Has best job in N. C.

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For New Schools

\$3.5 Million Contracts Signed By School Board

Members of the Brunswick County Board of Education in special session Thursday night signed contracts for the construction of three consolidated high school for Brunswick County. They represent a total expenditure of \$3,531,091.

The Western area school will be located near Shallotte on Highway 130; the Northern area school will be located near Leland; and the Southern area school will be located at Boiling Springs Lakes.

Grading of sites began Monday.

Jack Croft, school architect, briefed the board on pre-construction contractor's conference conducted that afternoon. He reported that contractors are to submit monthly operational budgets by the first of each month during construction of buildings.

The board was informed that School Bonds were sold at an interest rate of 6.406 percent and that funds from these bonds will be available around December 1.

To expedite construction on the Southern Area School the Board authorized funds to be spent for a limited access road to school site. This road is to be used until State Highway Department has completed a secondary road to site. L.R. Armstrong and Son are to provide the limited access road.

The following list of substitute teachers was approved: BCHS—Mrs. Janice G. Ganland; Leland—Hobson Bennett, Daphne F. Sue, Wendell H. Eslick, Bertram F. Bradshaw,

Gloria E. Blanks, Waccamaw—Mrs. Jackie B. Smith, Mrs. Kathy W. Formyduval.

The board accepted the following list of substitute teacher aides: Leland—Mrs. Narine Russ, Miss Gloria E. Blanks; Lincoln—Geraldine McKoy, Juanita Robinson, Vina Benton, Helen McCain, Mary Sloan, Shallotte—Mrs. Catherine (Kitty) Benton; Southport—Mrs. Frances Burns, Mrs. Sandra Cochran, Mrs. Edna Crouch, Mrs. Shirley Evans, Mrs. Jean Kenny, Mrs. Sandra McCrackin, Mrs. Dianne Mc-

Crackin, Mrs. Barbara Perkins. A teaching was prepared for Jacqueline Smith for the 1970-71 school year at Southport Elementary School.

Application has been made for the 1971 Summer Headstart Program.

Bill K. Hughes and Chester Moody were assigned as students to Waccamaw High School.

The board approved certificate status of Mrs. Edna Gause as Library Supervisor in accordance with G.S. 115-49.

Superintendent Ralph King was authorized to make ap-

plication for surplus government land located near old Bethel Church road off Highway 87 near Southport. Provided application is approved by proper government officials land will be used in Board of Education long-range building plans.

Board members heard Mr. Wolff, Trades and Industry Instructor from Leland High School, express opinions formulated by County Trades and Industry and Agriculture personnel concerning their

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Sign School Construction Contracts

Contracts totalling \$3,531,091. for the construction of the three consolidated high schools for Brunswick County were finalized and signed at the Thursday Night meeting of the Board of Education. Pictured above are members of the board and Superintendent of Schools Ralph C. King, as contracts were signed. Left to right they are board attorney Mason H. Anderson, Dr. John T. Madison, Mrs. May W. Barbee, Chairman Wilbur E. Rabon, Joe N. Gainey, Homer Holden, and Superintendent King.

Garden Clubs Will Help With Clean-Up

Representatives from Southport Garden Club and Woodbine Garden Club met Thursday night with the Board of Aldermen to discuss a program for a general clean-up of the waterfront.

Spokesmen were Mrs. Herbert Franck and Mrs. Jack Vermillion, who submitted the following proposition to the city fathers.

"We are here as representatives of the Woodbine Garden Club and the Southport Garden Club. As such we are making this plea on behalf of more than 50 civic-minded, Southport-loving and conservation-conscious women.

First, we would like to commend the Mayor, City Manager,

Board of Aldermen, and all the city employees, on their past and present efforts to keep Southport a place of unique charm and natural beauty. You have shown yourselves to be proud of the past, aware of the needs of the present and concerned for the future.

Second, we wish to call to your collective attention the joint concern of our Garden Club members toward cleaning up, beautifying and maintaining Southport's greatest natural resource—the waterfront. From the junction of Moore Street and River road, all the way down to and around the old Yacht Basin, the waterfront is a conglomeration of junk, litter, overgrowth and general neglect.

"Third, we recognize that some of the property in need of attention is privately owned and permission would have to be

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Board Hears Waste Proposal

Solid waste disposal for Brunswick County should be put in operation as soon as possible, according to a representative of the state Board of Health.

District sanitarian Fred Wood spoke to the Brunswick County board of commissioners at its regular session on Monday. He presented a survey and recommendations made by his department for the management of the solid waste disposal plan.

The commissioners had requested that the Board of Health make the survey of the waste disposal. Wood explained the proposed plan in detail and urged that it be placed in operation as soon as possible.

Similar projects are underway in other North Carolina counties. A landfill system in Columbus County for the disposal of solid waste will cost an estimated \$170,000 and the commissioners there have applied to an area funding agency for the needed money.

In other business Monday, the Brunswick commissioners re-appointed Jackie Stevenson as a member of the Sencland Community Action board of directors. The appointment is effective December 1 and continues through November, 1973.

Stevenson has served as one of 27 members of the community action agency that serves Columbus, Bladen and Brunswick counties. Brunswick is allotted nine of the board positions, although the board is not complete at this time.

W.D. Ward was appointed as a member of the Resource Development Commission to fill the unexpired term of W.B. Mintz, who has resigned from the post.

The board instructed the clerk to write a letter to R.W. McGowan, assistant chief engineer of the North Carolina Highway Commission, concerning the proposed

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Time And Tide

The year 1935 was one of the post-depression years, and one measure to strengthen the hog market was controlled production. A headline in our November 13 edition for that year told that excess hogs might legitimately be donated to the county home. Fire had destroyed the home of former sheriff I.D. Harrelson in the Funstow community.

A sports fishing picture was on the front page. It showed Charles Greer beside a 45-lb. black drum he had caught in the Cape Fear river about 100-yards from the pilot dock. The late C.L. Stevens was heading the Red Cross roll call, and the date had been extended beyond the Thanksgiving deadline. There had been changes in personnel at the local CCC camp, with Zach Williams being transferred as educational advisor to camp near Fort Bragg.

Five years later an election had just been held, and figures revealed that less than 4,000 ballots had been cast for county officials. A Red Cross roll call was in progress, this time with community chairman sharing the responsibility. Work had begun on an addition to the Southport High School building.

The Rev. Russell Harrison had been returned as pastor of Trinity Methodist Church; a group of Washington, D.C., men were having a late fall go at sports fishing; and questionnaires had been mailed to 75 registrants by the local Selective Service Board.

Back in 1945, Southport citizens had been polled regarding the outstanding need for Southport and they had come up with the answer: A modern Hotel. (The poll had been conducted by the late W.B.

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