

# THE STATE PORT PILOT

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A TUESDAY MORNING FIRE destroyed the Gibson's-Kirby's Food Town complex in the Shallotte business district. Owner Floyd Kirby

said investigation of the estimated \$400,000 blaze is underway, and that he intends to rebuild the shopping center.

## Large Grants Are Asked For County Water Supply

Brunswick County officials will meet Thursday and Friday with representatives of federal agencies, seeking funds for the proposed \$4.5 million water supply system.

Meetings will be held Thursday in Raleigh with representatives of the Economic Development Administration and Farmers Home Administration; Friday, local government officials will be in Greensboro for a conference with HUD representatives.

A special meeting to evaluate the Brunswick County proposal was held here last Thursday.

Among those attending were James Johnson of the Farmers Home Administration; Ron Ingle of the Economic Development Administration; Fred Steele of the Coastal Plains Regional Development Commission; and John Kelchner and Ralph E. Myers of HUD.

County Manager Jerry

Lewis said the meeting was held to determine to what extent the federal agencies would participate in the project funding. The county is asking for \$2.5 million of the

\$4.5 million project in federal grants. The remainder would be obtained through self-liquidating revenue bonds.

Both EDA and HUD are being requested to provide

funds for the project while the FHA would underwrite the revenue bonds.

James Johnson, head of the Farmers Home Administration in North Carolina, said indications were good that funding is available.

"Prospects for the program look good," Johnson said. "My agency will be able to move rapidly on it."

Ron Ingle of the EDA said the agency's regional director in Atlanta indicated the Brunswick project would have a high priority on the list.

"Brunswick County and this general area has a great deal of potential," said Fred Steele of the Coastal Plains Regional Development Commission as he explained his agency's involvement in the project.

The county is asking somewhere in the neighborhood of \$1.5 million from the Economic Development Administration and about one-half million dollars from HUD.

The Brunswick County water project calls for pumping water directly from Town Creek. A reservoir also would be built on the creek to be used in dry seasons. The water system would provide water for large industry such as Pfizer, and for town and residential use.



## Campaign Diary

By MARGARET HARPER

My friends in Brunswick County have no idea how much I am depending on them, not only for their vote, but for their contact with friends and relatives upstate. A letter, a phone call or a reminder to these people when they are down here for one of the next three weekends can add a lot of votes to my total. Almost anyone will do you a favor if you will ask, and many people still are undecided about how to vote for lieutenant governor. Help them make up their minds — for me!

Last week I spent Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in Asheville, Morganton, Hickory and Statesville and I left that part of the state with the feeling that I have some good things going for me up there.

It all started with a reception given for me by some friends in Asheville Wednesday night at the Sheraton Motor Inn. Representative Herschel Harkins, State Senator I.C. Crawford, Margo Coggins, Mary Lyne Morrissey and Liz Jolliff were in charge of things, and we laid the groundwork for some good results in Buncombe County. The next morning I had breakfast with about a dozen business men, and once more some members of the opposite sex found out that I'm really not hard to get along with.

(Continued On Page Five)

## Faircloth To Attend School

Giles Thomas Faircloth Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Faircloth, Sr., Supply, has been chosen to represent Brunswick County at the Governor's School this summer in the field of mathematics.

Faircloth is a junior at Shallotte High School and a member of the National Honor Society, and the Science, French, and Debating clubs. He is a native of Blacksburg, S.C., and has been attending Shallotte High School for two years. Tommy plans to attend UNC-CH and major in mathematics.

The Governor's School of North Carolina is an eight-week residential program on the campus of Salem College in Winston-Salem for 400 North Carolina high school students. It is operated by a Board of Governors under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education.

Tommy was selected on the basis of his superior ability in the field of mathematics and leadership in general.

(Continued On Page Five)

## Williamson Scholarships Awarded County Seniors

Randall Wade Moreadith, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Moreadith of Leland, and Margaret Stevenson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Stevenson of Waccamaw, were awarded \$1,500 scholarships at the first annual competition for the Odell and Virginia Williamson Scholarship Awards.

The competition, held Sunday afternoon at the Bolivia High School auditorium, featured finalists from each of the five Brunswick County high schools.

Moreadith's presentation, "A Shadow Grows", dealt with the need for positive action against the spread of venereal disease in the United States, North Carolina, and Brunswick County.

Miss Stevenson's topic, "I Am Your Sister", addressed itself to the need for racial harmony and understanding.

The two scholarships, the Odell Williamson Scholarship Award and the Virginia Williamson Scholarship Award, will be presented annually to the boy and girl winners in the county-wide

declamation competition among high school seniors. In addition to the scholarship awards, the Williamsons provide \$100 cash wards for each of the ten high school finalists.

The purpose of the scholarships is to create renewed interest in writing (composition) and public speaking (declamation) for effect among the various high school student bodies.

Williamson has indicated that he intends to establish a \$100,000 trust fund to endow

(Continued On Page Five)

## Mrs. Harper Is Recognized

Margaret Harper of Southport was initiated as an honorary member of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society at the Eta State Convention in Greensboro Saturday evening. Mrs. Doris Pridgen of Whiteville, state president, was the installing officer.

Delta Kappa Gamma is an International Honorary Society for Women

(Continued On Page Five)



MRS. HARPER

## Three School Principals Named By County Board

School Superintendent Ralph C. King has announced the appointment of principals for Brunswick County's three new consolidated high schools.

The new appointees are William Nelson Best, who will serve at the North Brunswick High School; Lee Roy Biggerstaff, South Brunswick High School; and Jonathan Hankins, West Brunswick High School.

In making the announcement, King stated that all three principals are eminently qualified educators. The appointment of these men, the assignment of qualified staff, the inauguration of a new instructional program, and the new facilities, will greatly enhance the quality of education afforded Brunswick County youngsters, the superintendent added.

Commenting briefly on the new appointees, King noted that Best "is a dedicated professional educator and

has worked diligently to improve the educational opportunities afforded the children at Leland High School. Hankins has served Brunswick County schools for 22 years and his performance record has been excellent. Biggerstaff is a well-qualified

school man having educational experience in both the public and private sectors. As a former principal at Southport High School, Biggerstaff has an understanding of many of our

(Continued On Page Five)

## Gardner Cites 'Power Abuse'

A standing-room-only crowd of 250 from Brunswick, Columbus and New Hanover counties gathered at Calabash last Wednesday night to hear Republican gubernatorial candidate Jim Gardner in a Lincoln Day Address sponsored by the Brunswick County Young Republican Club.

Gardner, the 1968 Republican nominee who

captured nearly 48 percent of the vote against Bob Scott, declared that the upcoming primary would be healthy for the Republican party as long as all Republicans united behind the winner in May.

Along these lines, the former Congressman declined to criticize his primary opponent but concentrated his attack on the "cynical abuse of power perpetrated by a political machine which has controlled the state for nearly 80 years."

Stressing that he was the Republican candidate who could win in November, Gardner urged his fellow Republicans to turn out and vote in the upcoming primary and to remain united not only for the gubernatorial candidate but for President Nixon.

Other candidates attending the rally were lieutenant governor hopefuls Johnny Walker and Norman Joyner, Congressional candidates Jerry Scott and William Nixon as well as candidates for county and district offices. At the conclusion of the dinner, State Republican Chairman Frank Rouse of Kinston gave a brief explanation of the sustaining membership program of the North Carolina Republican Party.

(Continued On Page Five)

## 1,200 New Registrants Added To Vote Roster

The lower age requirement and the abolishment of the one-year residency rule are factors in the increased voter registration in Brunswick County, according to Board of Elections executive secretary Mrs. Vivian Tatum.

About 1,200 persons registered during the past three weeks, according to Mrs. Tatum. This brings the Brunswick County total to more than 12,000, she added, still short of the 14,000 the county is required to have before the Board of Elections

office can be operated full-time.

Many of the new prospective voters were registered in an in-the-school campaign. "We did very well in the schools," she said. "I think we got all the eligible voters."

She conceded, however, that there are many 18-50-21-year old potential voters who still are not registered.

An undetermined number of potential voters have come into Brunswick County with the growth of industry; at least 2,500 workers are

employed at the Brown and Root construction site near Southport.

According to Mrs. Tatum, the young people and adults have been registering Democratic about 2-to-1.

"This is the most complex, different and interesting election I've seen," she said of the May 6 primary. She noted that the registrants talked of registering and voting instead of the candidates, "but maybe it will happen later."

The Board of Elections



Randy Moreadith and Margaret Stevenson were named winners of the first annual Odell and Virginia Williamson scholarships during the county-wide competition Sunday afternoon. The \$1,500 awards were presented after competition

at each of the county schools, where each of the ten winners were awarded a \$100 scholarship. The Williamsons have established a \$100,000 fund to perpetuate the scholarships, given in recognition of oratory talents.