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WELCOME ABOARD. Gov. James Holshouser (left) tells Wilbur Earl Rabon of Winnabow after the Brunswick County man was named Highway Commissioner for this district. Rabon, who has been serving as chairman of the Brunswick County Board of Education, is the first from this county named

to the important-state post. Gov. Holshouser on Thursday named 23 members of the State Highway Commission to serve with Bruce A. Lentz, secretary of transportation and highway safety, who will be chairman of the SHC.

Island Bridge Bid Opening Scheduled

The second opening of bids for construction of a high-level bridge to Oak Island will be held Tuesday by the State Highway Commission.

The first bids on the project were accepted in November, but at its December meeting the SHC members agreed that an honest mistake had been made in submitting the apparent low bid. Therefore, on a motion by then-commissioner for this district David Parnell of Parkton, it was ordered that the bids be readvertised. SHC officials have said since then that the bridge could be open for travel by May 1 next year as was previously announced.

Wilbur Rabon of Winnabow, the first Brunswick County member on the State Highway Commission, will represent this district when the SHC officially reviews the bids on February 1.

Announcement of the opening of bids came in the final release from Parnell, who resigned from the highway commission before Rabon was named as his replacement. Also in the notice from Parnell was word of a 21.8-mile project that involves a sand asphalt surface and bituminous concrete surface for surfacing one section of secondary road and resurfacing three sections of primary roads and two sections of secondary roads. Bids on this project also will be opened on Tuesday.

Parnell also announced the allocation of more than \$6,000 to Brunswick County for two secondary road construction projects approved at the SHC January meeting. The projects are the stabilization of one mile of state road 1313 from NC 904 to state road 1315 at a cost of \$1,000; and the grading, draining, basing and paving of the Leland Raceway Road to serve the Leland Volunteer Rescue Squad building. Cost of this one-tenth mile project would

be \$5,000.

But the major project involved in current SHC action is the high-level bridge that will cost an estimated \$3.5 million. Included in the 1,439-mile construction are approaches on NC 133 between Yaupon Beach on the island and state road 1102.

Final completion date is supposed to be Oct. 1, 1974, but the early opening would be made possible by saving any finishing touches on the bridge until last. Work is expected to begin immediately, or only a few weeks after the Triplett and Ryan companies of Chester, S.C., would have commenced work had it not been for the

"honest mistake".

The SHC reported that the company incorrectly figured the total cost of concrete because of a preliminary figure of 90 cents per cubic yard instead of the accurate \$90. The miscalculation would have cost the company an estimated \$300,000 — disastrous for a small company, the SHC members agreed.

The Triplett and Ryan bid was \$3,090,936, well below the State Highway Commission estimate of the project cost and easily below the bids of the only two other contractors, Bellamy Brothers of

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Area Clean-Up Project Slated

Brunswick County and her nine municipalities are preparing for Clean-Up Month, scheduled here in February.

County commissioners, in approving a proclamation last week, urged all "individuals, churches, civic organizations, commercial and industrial institutions, municipalities, county, state and federal organizations to participate" in the program. Ed Clemmons, manager of the county's solid waste disposal system, has been named coordinator for the clean-up campaign.

"It won't be that difficult if everyone does his share," Clemmons noted. "But we should not hesitate to begin. It will take cooperation from everybody to make the project successful."

He said that the six sanitary landfills in the county are a good base on which to build a program: "We have these sites

available and the people are becoming more familiar with them. Perhaps after we clean-up the county next month our citizens will take more pride and it won't be difficult to keep Brunswick County clean."

He suggested that Boy Scouts could use the clean-up program as a project for their organization.

Primary concern of the program is the cleaning of "trash dumps" which have been created recently, especially in the immediate Southport area. Jerry Lewis, county manager who announced the program earlier this month, said the county hopes to involve some firms that own heavy equipment.

"When we get through," he added, "we want our sanitary landfills to be the only sites used for solid waste disposal. We want to wipe out these informal garbage dumps we find all over Brunswick County."

Junior Women Sponsor Drive

The Junior Woman's Club of Southport will sponsor the March of Dimes Campaign beginning January 21 and continuing through January 28.

Mrs. James Kenney, chairman of the Home Life Department, will be responsible for the organization of the drive.

Again this year, elementary school children will join in the March of Dimes Campaign and canisters will be on display in local businesses for contributions. Junior Woman's Club (Continued On Page Two)

Town Creek Precinct Divided; Chairman Criticizes Involvement

The Brunswick County Board of Elections has voted to divide Town Creek precinct, where the registration has grown by leaps and bounds in recent years and now totals more than 1,100.

In the creation of a new voting precinct, the board contemplates retaining Winnabow as the polling place for that part of the existing Town Creek precinct lying west of the railroad to Sunny Point. The part of the existing precinct lying east of

the railroad will include the Belleview area, which will be about the center.

Also under consideration are plans to divide the Leland precinct, where registration now exceeds 1,500. No definite plans were discussed for this division, according to Chairman Hubert Bellamy.

"The board is concerned with the work overload that now falls upon the shoulders of election officials at Town Creek and Leland," Bellamy said. "If we are able to divide these two precincts it will

help make it possible for ballots to be counted and records completed without all-night sessions."

Chairman Bellamy said that he wishes to express his appreciation to election officials, both Democrat and Republican, for their hard work and cooperation which made it possible to handle the largest voter volume in the history of the county on November 7. "I was proud of their efforts to make this a smooth and honest election," he said.

Bellamy reported that at the hearing before the State Board of Elections in Raleigh into the matter of a recount in the contest for Register of Deeds, he was pleased that the state board rendered its decision on the basis of the facts in the case and not upon affidavits which made "wild and unsubstantiated charges".

Bellamy said he still is unhappy over the fact that several county officials, including W.A. Kopp, Jr., and Harold Willetts, had signed some of these affidavits. He singled out Wilmington attorney George Clark as another who had helped to

create an atmosphere of unpleasantness in connection with the close race between Arthur Knox and Durwood Clark that resulted in a 10-vote victory for the Republican candidate.

"I particularly resent the threat and intimidation which were made a part of this matter," Bellamy said, "and some of the actions taken involving Board of Election members still are being investigated."

Mrs. Stephenson Named Clubwoman Of The Year

The Junior Woman's Club of Southport has named Mrs. Jackie Stephenson recipient of the "Clubwoman-of-the-Year" award for 1972.

Since joining the Junior Woman's Club, Mrs. Stephenson has given of her time in all areas of club work. Her first year in the club, she was a member of the Education Committee. She has been chairman of the International Affairs Department, a member of District Junior Project Committee and this past year served the club as publicity director.

She compiled, with the help of Mrs. Jerry Sherrrod, a pressbook that won the pressbook award for District 11 and is now in state competition. Along with other members, she has represented the club at Junior Day in Clinton, the state convention in Greensboro and the C.I.P. seminar in Winston-Salem.

Mrs. Stephenson has been elected to serve the Junior

Woman's Club as president for 1973.

A native North Carolinian, Mrs. Stephenson was born in Davidson County. She was graduate from high school in High Point and continued her education at the Mercy School of Nursing in Charlotte and Sacred Heart College in Belmont, and was graduated first in her class. She has been active in many areas of nursing and has served on the state Committee of Economics and General Welfare.

She was a North Carolina delegate to the A.N.A. Convention in Atlantic City and served as the District 3 President of the North Carolina State Nurses Association. She was an instructor in the School of Nursing at North Carolina Baptist Hospital. While serving in this capacity, she was advisor to the medical and nursing school's yearbook, "Grey and White Matter".

As a result of her efforts,

the nurses voted to dedicate their part of the yearbook to her. Dr. Timothy Pennell shared the honors with Mrs. Stephenson, as the medical students dedicated their portion of the yearbook to him.

Mrs. Stephenson moved with her family to Oak Island (Continued On Page Two)

College Fund Is Augmented

The gift of \$1,000 to the Southeastern Community College Foundation was presented recently by the Brunswick Electric Membership Corporation in brief ceremonies at the college.

The check was presented by Robert G. Hubbard, general manager of the corporation, on behalf of its 13 directors, headed by C.D. Branch as president. In accepting the gift on behalf of the Foundation, Dr. Tom Cottingham, president of Southeastern, paid tribute to the Corporation's interest in higher education and the role that Southeastern plays.

During the presentation, Hubbard told Dr. Cottingham that the directors of BEMC hope to make a similar contribution each year. The gift is unrestricted, and the SCC Foundation will use it for financial aid to deserving students.

The SCC Foundation currently is conducting a special drive, hoping to raise \$25,000 to match available federal support for financial aid to eligible students. The drive is under the direction of J. Herman Leder and Harold Wells, both of Whiteville.

BEMC, with headquarters in Shallotte, has a special interest in Southeastern, Hubbard told college officials. He said approximately one-third of the employees at BEMC have taken some work at Southeastern, and that about 10 percent are SCC graduates. Hubbard expressed the hope that SCC would be offering specific training programs for staff members in the future.

Mrs. M.H. Rourk of Shallotte, a member of the Southeastern Board of (Continued On Page Two)

Proposal Would Restrict Access

A recommendation from the Planning Board for the Town of Long Beach that the ends of 22 of the 44 streets running from the highway to the ocean be sold has drawn fire from both residents and non-resident property owners.

The stated purpose of this plan would be to use funds derived from the sale to pave the remaining street ends to provide parking and to erect steps and walkways to get

over the dunes and on the beach.

Jack Hayward, chairman of the Planning Board, declared Tuesday that the purpose of the recommendation is "to span access to the beach. When I was city manager for the Town of Long Beach," he continued, "I had repeated complaints that there are only three places to park and walk across the dunes to the beach."

Hayward listed these as the ends of 49th and 58th streets and at Lockwood Folly Inlet.

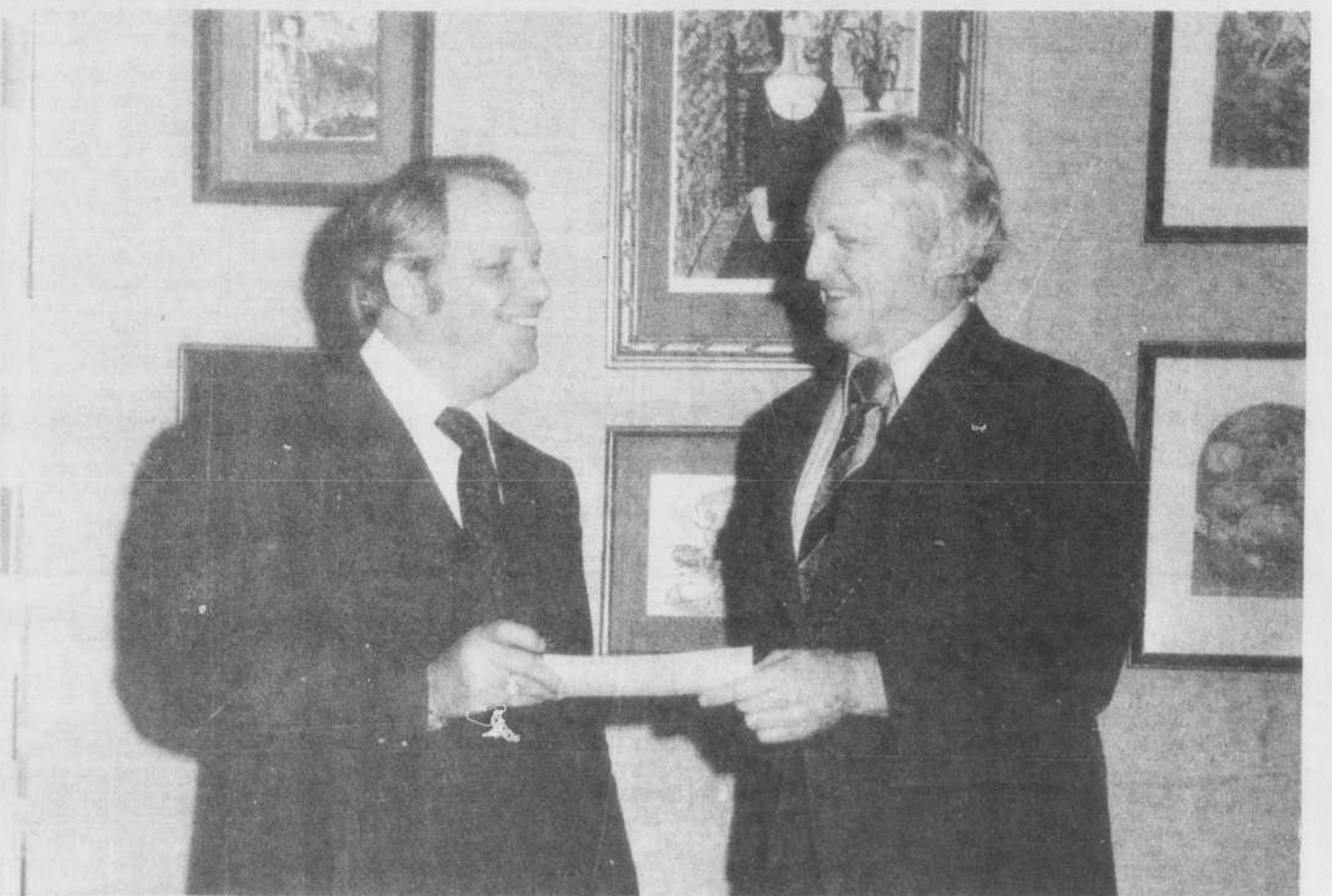
Hayward said that his board is without authority to do more than make its recommendations to the Town Council, which meets this Thursday night. He expressed the belief that no action would be taken by the council without first holding a public meeting.

"I understand that Mayor Nick Coleman has asked the

city attorney for a ruling on the legality of action of this kind," he said. A Dunn law firm, Bryan, Jones, Johnson, Hunter and Greene, now serve as legal counsel for the Town of Long Beach.

A group of citizens, aroused to action by news of this proposal by the Planning Board, has formed the Long Beach Recreation Corporation for which H.A.

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BRUNSWICK ELECTRIC Membership Corporation general manager Robert G. Hubbard (left) of Shallotte presents a \$1,000 check to the Southeastern Community College Foundation.

Accepting the check for the Foundation is Dr. Tom Cottingham, president of the college located near Whiteville.

Figures Wrong, Says Cupit

A story about Doshier Memorial Hospital that appeared in an area newspaper last week stating that a \$20,000 to \$30,000 monthly subsidy was needed for the facility to continue operation was erroneous, says hospital administrator W.F. Cupit.

"Between \$20,000 and \$30,000 is needed to help the financial dilemma that Doshier Memorial Hospital now faces, caused by a decrease in the number of patients and the high percentage of non-paying patients, Cupit said this week. "If the decrease in the number of patients continues a financial crisis will also continue, and in order for the hospital to remain operational a subsidy will be needed. The exact amount cannot be estimated at this time, however."