

THE STATE PORT PILOT

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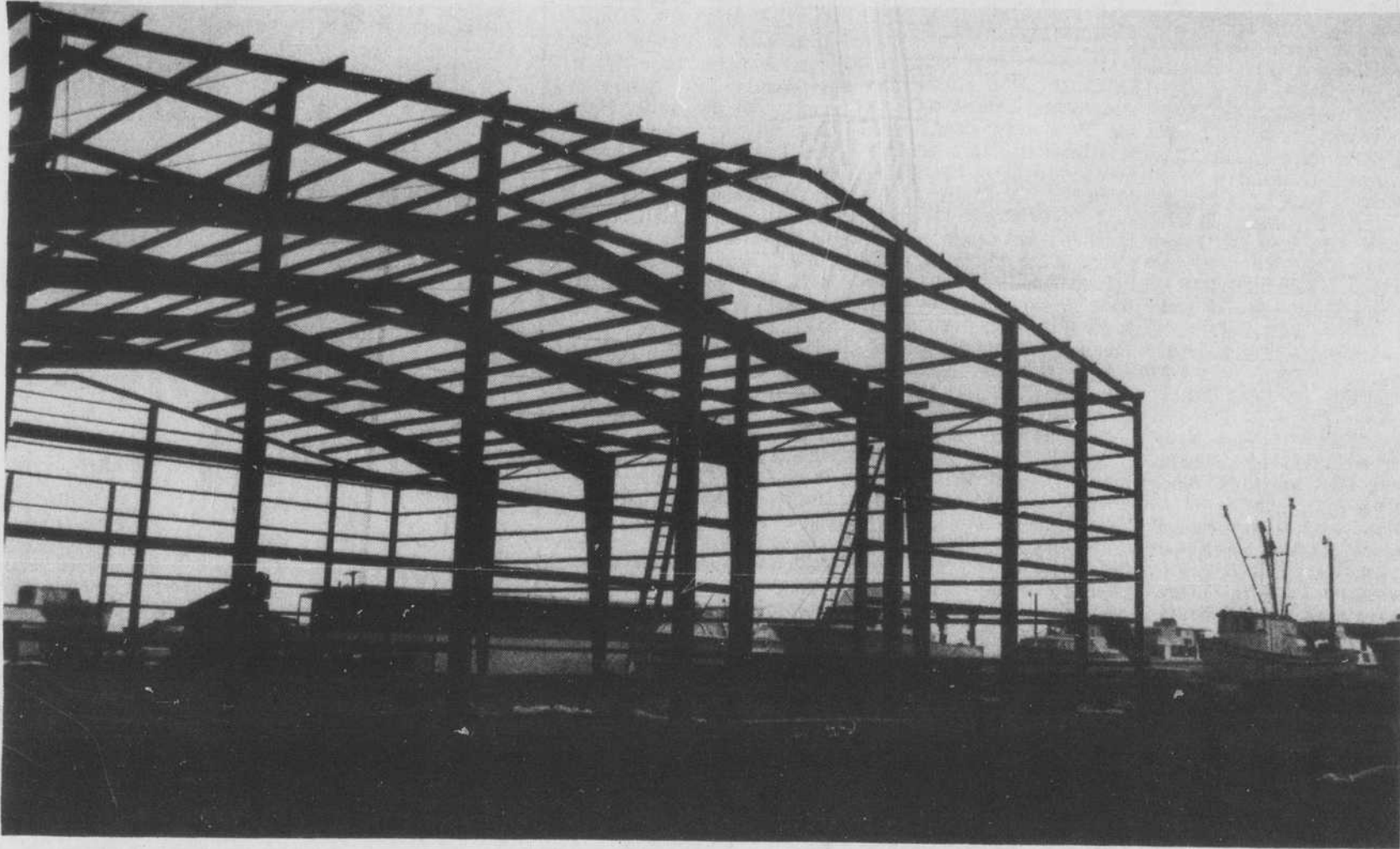
18 PAGES TODAY

SOUTHPORT, NORTH CAROLINA

APRIL 3, 1974

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A DRY BOAT STORAGE BUILDING is being erected at the Southport Boat Harbor, another step in the continuing development of that popular facility. The new structure will be located behind the present administration building.

For County Schools

Central Complex Is Recommended

A central administrative office in the vicinity of Supply has been recommended for the Brunswick County Board of Education.

The long-range proposal was presented to the board Monday night by representatives of the Division of School Planning, N.C. Dept. of Public Instruction.

Board of education members are now con-

sidering a long-range, \$11 million school improvement project. A new administrative building has been identified as the final priority, but Dr. J.L. Pierce, director of the Division of School Planning, placed greater importance on a new facility.

"The central office should be one of the most attractive places in Brunswick County,"

he said.

In designating the Supply location, Dr. Darrell Spencer, educational consultant with the Division of School Planning and a member of a four-member committee that compiled the survey, said arguments could be made for locating the administrative office north, east, south or west of the

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County Commissioners

Plans For County Offices Deferred Pending Report

Plans for a county office complex were postponed Monday by the county commissioners.

Engineering consultant Jerry Lewis asked for the delay to confer with architects of L.R. Evans & Associates of Raleigh. He

Lewis Resigns As Party Chief

Jerry Lewis resigned last week as county chairman of the Republican Party.

Lewis said growth of his business "requires my full attention," in a letter dated last Tuesday. He pledged his "continued efforts to aid and assist" the GOP candidates in the upcoming May 7 primary.

Lewis had held the chairman post since October. He is a former county manager. He resigned the county manager position about a year ago to establish an engineering consultant business in Southport.

Lewis, in his letter to "elected officials and candidates," expressed thanks to members of his party for "cooperation and support" given him during his tenure as chairman.

said a report will be made either April 16 or the following commissioner meeting.

"It looks like there might be some changes," he said of the need to consult with the architects.

The commissioners March 18 expressed interest in planning for a consolidated office complex. Chairman W.A. Kopp, Jr., said he favored planning the complex to allow "court-related

services ... to be located with the court itself at all times." He said this would increase efficiency.

Lewis said privately Monday, "They (the commissioners) made a decision on what is going to happen where." He was referring to a list of county offices, distributed at either Supply or Southport.

When the commissioners contracted Lewis for office

(Continued on page 2)

Registrars, Judges Named

Sign-Up Ends Monday For May 7 Elections

Voter registration ends Monday for the May 7 primary.

Citizens may register at the Brunswick County Board of Elections in Bolivia or with their local registrars. The election board office is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:30 to 5 p.m. p.m.

Absentee ballots will be available upon application at the county office until May 1 at 6 p.m.

Recent changes in the election laws permit qualified voters to vote by absentee ballot in primary elections as well as general elections.

If a registered voter expects to be absent from the county in which he is registered during the entire period that the polls are open on election day, the voter

may apply for an absentee ballot.

Voters unable to be present at the voting places on election day because of sickness or other physical disability may vote absentee.

Also, any qualified voter who has been convicted of a misdemeanor and is incarcerated, whether in his county of residence or elsewhere, is entitled to vote by absentee ballot.

If a voter unexpectedly becomes ill or physically disabled after the May 1 deadline and before 10 a.m. on May 6, he or a near relative may apply for absentee ballots.

The application form must be mailed or delivered in person by the applicant or a near relative to the chairman or executive secretary of the

county board of elections. Ballots are transmitted to the voter only, not to a near relative.

The rules also permit "one-stop absentee ballot voting." During the period for application and not later than 6 p.m. on Wednesday before the election, a voter may appear in person at the office of the county board of elections and request application for absentee ballots. The voter may complete the application in the presence of a member of the board or the executive secretary, turn in the application, receive the ballots and vote then and there.

All ballots must be received not later than 6 p.m. on the day before the election. Ballots received later than this hour will not be accepted

for voting. Voters who have moved can have their vote challenged if they attempt to cast their ballot in their old precinct.

The Brunswick County (Continued on page 2)

Appling Out

Luke Appling of Yaupon Beach, a Republican candidate for county commissioner, unofficially withdrew from the May 7 primary Tuesday.

Although Appling's name will remain on the ballot, he said he no longer considers himself running for the nomination against GOP candidate John Bray of Southport.

Election laws reportedly allow official primary withdrawal only before the deadline for filing.

Appling said he is no longer seeking the nomination because his personal life will demand too much of his time. He said Tuesday, "(I am) just too tied down and unable to fully participate in the program as (would be) required."

Shady Forest Now A Town

The Shady Forest development in the Bonaparte's Landing area has been incorporated after the passage of legislation introduced by Sen. Arthur W. Williamson.

Williamson said he "worked closely" with Rep. R.C. Soles to pass the legislation. He said he introduced the bill on the request of several Shady Forest residents.

Shady Forest residents reportedly sought the law to prevent annexation by Sunset Beach and inclusion in Sunset Beach's extraterritorial zoning boundaries.

The Sunset Beach council enacted the zoning ordinance in early February, over the protests of development citizens who claimed the extension would restrict their ability to manage their private property.

Easter Lily Sales Noted

The Brunswick County Easter Seal Society, with Mrs. A.P. Henry, Jr., serving as chairman, will sell Easter lilies to help raise money for the Crippled Children's Fund.

It is suggested that individuals will want to purchase these lilies either for themselves or to place in their churches on Easter Sunday and thereby help not

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Allegedly Pumping Illegal Gas

Clemmons, Sheriff Call Rumors 'Vicious Lies'

By BOBBY HILL
Saying he withdrew but re-entered the May 7 primary last week, Commissioner J.T. Clemmons Monday termed recent rumors about him a "vicious lie."

Clemmons said the rumors which prompted his withdrawal were "that I had been locked up for selling illegal gas; I was under \$10,000 bond; I had stayed in jail at least one night."

The commissioner operates Clem's Texaco station on US 17 east of Shallotte. He denounced the rumors at a "press conference" at the commissioner meeting Monday.

Clemmons said he re-entered the campaign Thursday after receiving voter support for his candidacy. He said voter opinion showed him that his decision to withdraw was "selfish for myself and not considering the public."

Board of Elections members confirmed they allowed Clemmons both to withdraw and to re-enter the primary. Clemmons said county elections chairman Lester Babson received

approval for the moves from state election chairman Alex Brock in Raleigh.

Clemmons mentioned his membership and high ranking in the Shallotte Lions and Jaycees organizations. "I am still in the race," Clemmons declared. "I intend to win this primary. I intend to be re-elected this fall."

The commissioner also said similar rumors had been prevalent during his political

campaign in 1966. He said he was then alleged to have been a member of the Ku Klux Klan, a racist organization. He said it was an "outright lie" that he was a member of this group.

Clemmons did not name those persons spreading the alleged rumors.

Dewey Sellers of Supply was present at the conference in support of Clemmons. Sellers is a former GOP party (Continued on page 2)

Shallotte, North Carolina
March 26, 1974

Brunswick County Board of Elections
Mr. Lester Babson, Chairman
Bolivia, North Carolina

Dear Mr. Babson,
I respectfully withdraw my name from the race for County Commissioner and request that my name not appear on the May, 1974 Primary Ballot.

Sincerely,
J.T. Clemmons
J. T. Clemmons
Lockwood Folly Township

Clemmons letter submitted, later withdraw

Armed Protest, Nobody Is Hurt

Thomas Watson, 22, of Wrightsville Beach protested the dismantling of the Watson home on Howe Street with a loaded pistol Tuesday afternoon.

After talking three times with Chief Herman Strong, Watson reportedly went peacefully with law enforcement officers.

Strong said Watson was taken Tuesday evening to Cherry Hospital in Goldsboro for observation.

Although Watson discharged two shots from a .38 caliber pistol, Strong said no charges were brought against the boy. "He didn't hurt anybody and just discharged the pistol in the air," Strong said. "I think when he decided people knew he was protesting, he decided to come out peaceably."

Workmen were removing the third story of the 19th century building in

preparation for moving it to a new location. A saving and loan association building will replace the Watson home.

"They're going to restore the building like it was, except that they're having to remove the top story to get the house under street wires and all," Strong said.

Strong talked to the youth three times during his two and one-half hour in the old building. "I tried to instill in him that what he was doing was wrong," he said. The police chief laid his pistol outside before entering the house to talk with young Watson. He persuaded him to surrender about 4:30 p.m.

"I'm glad he listened to reason and persuasion," Strong said.

The boy lives with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. David Watson, at their home in Wrightsville Beach.



Stephanie Helms, new Miss Brunswick County, is crowned

(Courtesy of Brunswick Beacon)