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NEW SOUTHPORT CHIEF of Police is George McCracken, here being sworn into office by Magistrate Earnest Gore. Looking on is former chief Herman Strong, who had taken a leave of absence from the police department to campaign

for Sheriff of Brunswick County. He won, passing the title of chief to McCracken, who was unanimously approved last Thursday by the Board of Aldermen.

## Mayor 'Optimistic'

# Dosher Decision Appears Imminent

Supporters of Doshier Memorial Hospital returned Monday from a meeting with the Medical Care Commission executive committee "optimistic" about the future of the local facility.

The five executive committee members present met privately following the hour and one-half meeting with advocates of Doshier and the proposed Brunswick County Memorial Hospital. A telephone conversation with I.O. Wilkerson (Dept. of Facility Services) Tuesday afternoon indicated some action was imminent; however, he said it would be improper for him to comment until the Medical Care Commission acts officially.

Wilkerson told The Pilot he had been asked to draft a "position paper" for the Medical Care Commission. The matter of medical care in Brunswick County "is still under study by the executive committee," he said.

Wilkerson, who said an official report could be more than a week away, said the commission was interested in "helping in whatever manner they can" to improve local medical care. "They have no axe to grind," he added.

He said the position of Doshier advocates "was vividly pointed out Monday." Southport Mayor Eugene B. Tomlinson, stating the Smithville Township argument to keep Doshier, was accompanied by at-

torney E. J. Prevatte, city counsel and a former trustee of Baptist Hospital in Winston Salem. The proposed new hospital was represented by Hospital Authority members Mason Anderson and Ramon Babson.

Also present were A. Gibson Howell, consultant for the new county facility; Larry Burwell of the Health Planning Division, Dept. of Human Resources; and

Brunswick County commissioners - elect W.T. Russ, Jr., and Willie Sloan. Russ and Sloan did not participate in the discussion, attending only as "interested observers."

According to Mayor Tomlinson, one member of the executive committee said he had been following the development of Brunswick and believed that if the new

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## Pledges Assistance

# Sheriff Wants Smooth Change

By BILL ALLEN  
After serving as sheriff of Brunswick County for the past eight years, Harold Willetts said he had no trouble accepting defeat.

"When you run for public office, you accept both the victories and the defeats," Willetts said in an interview one week after the election. "I believe in the wishes of the people."

Willetts was first elected sheriff in 1966 and re-elected in 1970. Seeking his third four-year term in office, he was defeated by Herman Strong

4,811 to 3,729 in the general election last week.

Despite rumors to the contrary, Willetts said he will serve out his full term, which ends December 3, rather than resign early. "I would never do such a thing as resign," the veteran sheriff declared. "When I ran for re-election four years ago, I made a commitment to the people to serve four years. I will stay on the job and do the best I can until my term of office expires the first Monday in

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## Holiday House Lists Chairman

Plans are progressing for the annual Holiday House to be sponsored on December 14 and 15 by the Southport Woman's Club, the Southport Junior Woman's Club, the Woodbine Garden Club, the Green Thumb Garden Club and the Southport Garden Club in the community building.

Chairmen of the various committees are house, Mrs. Margaret Connoughton and Mrs. Marty Dodd; registration, Mrs. Jackie Rowles; placement, Mrs. Frances Burdette; publicity, Mrs. Margaret Harper; posters, Mrs. Marty Dodd; hostesses, Mrs. Carolyn Tanner; wassail bowl, Mrs. Jean Fairley; and music, Mrs. Sue Jones.

The committee chairmen will be assisted by members of the various clubs in carrying out their duties. Anyone interested in serving in a particular area may contact these chairmen and volunteer assistance.

The idea show is open to everyone and not confined to club members.

# Beach's Grant Success Questioned By Member

By BILL ALLEN  
Is Long Beach receiving its share of grant money?

That was the question asked by Councilman C. Russell Morrison during the regular monthly meeting of the Long Beach town Council Thursday night.

Town Manager Frank Kivett told commissioners in his report a LEAA grant to hire an additional policeman had been turned down. But he expressed hope that the town could receive a Manpower grant to help pay the salary of another policeman until March.

In answer to a question asked by Mayor Pro-Tem Ellis Dudley, Kivett said Long Beach did not receive the LEAA grant because the agency is short of funds and the request lacked priority.

Dudley said that at the recent League of

Municipalities convention it was pointed out that more law enforcement funds are being made available to rural areas where crime is increasing the fastest. "Long Beach is a rural area under the guidelines," he stated. "If we can show we are crime-ridden, maybe we can get more funds."

Morrison said he was "upset about not getting the grant money." He wanted to know if Kivett was "100 percent sure" Long Beach would receive the Manpower funds.

The city manager said he was not "100 percent sure" the town would receive the grant.

"Frank, I want you to fulfill the promises you made, promises you made, promises to get grant money for Long Beach," Morrison declared. "I have not seen

any grant money."

Kivett said he was doing everything he could to obtain grant money for Long Beach. He said the town has not received any grant money, in answer to another Morrison question.

"It is a burden on Long Beach citizens to pay taxes without receiving grant money," Morrison stated. "I can't understand it (not receiving grant money)."

The board voted unanimously to apply for the Manpower grant to hire an additional policeman.

The board also voted unanimously to apply for 50-percent state matching funds to light the ball park. The action was taken after Kivett reported the town could apply for the grant to light the field and to "even build a swimming pool."

The town manager said it

would cost about \$5,700 to light the field and tennis courts, according to Brunswick Electric officials.

The board took no action on the suggestion to apply for grant money for the swimming pool. It was one of several decisions postponed, at the suggestion of Dudley, because Mayor Ed Morgan, who was reportedly sick, did not attend the meeting.

The board discussed leasing land from National Development Corporation to establish an area for motorcyclists, but postponed action until more information can be obtained.

Kivett reported that National Development had offered to lease the town land in an undeveloped area east of 58th street for the motorcyclists area. The lease

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## Was Tied With Varnam

# Russ Heads Vote In Board Victory

Shallotte auto dealer W.T. Russ, Jr., headed the Democratic sweep of the five seats on the board of commissioners in the general election last week, according to official results.

Russ, of Shallotte Township, topped the ticket with 4,722 votes and Steve Varnam, Jr., of Lockwood Folly finished second with 4,615 votes. The unofficial results had shown the two men deadlocked for first place on the ticket.

The official results were obtained after the Board of Elections and precinct officials spent almost nine hours canvassing the vote Thursday at the Courthouse in Southport.

Although candidates gained and lost votes during the canvass, the only change

involved Russ beating out Varnam for first place in the race for the board of commissioners.

Generally, the candidate who heads the ticket for the board is elected chairman at the first organizational meeting of the board after the election.

Executive Secretary Linda Babson of the Board of Elections said that between 61 and 62 percent of the registered voters in Brunswick County went to the polls Tuesday. Nationwide, statistics show that only about 38 percent of the voters cast ballots.

Despite the fact a large number of candidates were running for county and state offices and a write-in campaign was being waged, Mrs. Babson said only four or

five spoiled ballots had to be thrown out. "We usually have more spoiled ballots than that," Mrs. Babson said. "I guess people knew what they were doing when they voted."

While Russ and Varnam placed one - two in the race for the board of commissioners, Franky Thomas of Northwest was third with 4,565 votes, Willie Sloan of Towncreek fourth with 4,457 and Ira Butler, Jr., fifth with 4,455.

Incumbent William Kopp, Jr. of Town Creek headed the losing Republican slate for the board with 3,216 votes while incumbent Vardell Hughes of Waccamaw had 2,824, appointed incumbent James T. (Bubba) Smith of Smithville 2,668, William (Billy) Hickman of Shallotte 2,626 and John J. Child, Sr., of

Northwest 2,510.

Incumbent Republican J.T. Clemmons, defeated for re-nomination in the GOP primary, received 462 write-in votes for a seat on the board.

Democrat Herman Strong was elected sheriff of Brunswick County with 4,811 votes while veteran incumbent Republican Harold Willetts had 3,729.

Democratic Veteran Jack Brown received more votes than any other candidate running in Brunswick County when he rolled up a 5,822 to 2,276 victory over Republican James Jeffreys in the race for clerk of court.

Lowell Bennett, another Democratic veteran incumbent, defeated Larry Andrews, 5,276 votes to 2,623 in the race for coroner.

Democrat Allen C. Ward took both Brunswick and Pender Counties to win the 11th district house seat in the General Assembly. He polled 5,732 votes in Brunswick County while Ronald Dunn, the Republican, had 2,292.

Edd Nye, the Democrat from Bladen County, gained the 11th district Senate seat in the General Assembly by defeating Mitchell Mercer of Columbus County in Brunswick, Columbus and Bladen counties. Nye received 5,158 votes in Brunswick and Mercer 2,385.

Democrat J. Wilton Hunt, Sr., of Columbus County was elected judge of the 13th Judicial District. He beat Republican Ralph G. Jorgensen of Columbus County 4,990 to 2,384 in Brunswick County.

Democrat Lee J. Greer, running unopposed for district solicitor, picked up 5,513 votes in Brunswick County.

Democrat Robert Morgan rolled up 5,603 votes in the county to defeat Republican William E. Stevens, who polled only 2,278, in the race for the U.S. Senate.

Democrat Rufus L. Edmisten had no trouble beating appointed Republican incumbent James Carson, Jr., 5,284 to 2,866 for North Carolina attorney general.

Susie Sharp, a Democrat, smashed Republican James Newcomb in the race for chief judge of the Supreme Court. Miss Sharp had 5,871 votes and Newcomb 2,044.

Democrat J. William Copeland was elected

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# Bald Head Position Not Hurt By Ruling

A hearing about the Bald Head Island marina suit was held Tuesday before U.S. District Judge John D. Larkins in Wilson, but no action can be taken until more information is received from the higher court.

The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, after considering appeals filed by environmentalists for several months, ruled Monday that

further arguments must be held on the suit seeking to ban construction of the marina. The first of the hearings to receive more information was held Tuesday.

After the Corps of Engineers granted approval of the marina, the Conservation Council of North Carolina and the Sierra Club filed the suit early in the summer.

Judge Larkins, the first judge to hear the suit, turned down the arguments of the environmentalists July 24, rejected their request for a preliminary injunction and dismissed the action.

But 4th Circuit Court Judge J. Braxton Craven, hearing an appeal two days after Larkins' ruling, granted a limited injunction pending appeal. He said the channel between the river and the marina could not be opened, but said Carolina Cape Fear Corporation could continue construction of the marina.

Although the Appeals Court ordered more argument in the suit, the judges let stand temporarily the limited injunction barring the opening of the channel to the marina, which is under construction.

The 4th Circuit Court, in

remanding the case to District Court, said Judge Larkins could dissolve Judge Craven's injunction "at his discretion."

The court listed three reasons why it said Judge Larkins could not be criticized for the denial of a preliminary injunction.

The court said the environmentalists have "yet to demonstrate that the continued construction of the marina will injure them."

If the corporation is enjoined from carrying out the work under the permit, the court said "delays in construction may result in increased construction costs and postponed enjoyment by property owners of water access to the island."

Third, and according to the court "most significantly, (the) plaintiffs have not shown a great likelihood of success on the (argument of the case on its) merits."

The 4th Circuit Court said it could not resolve the environmentalists' claim as a "matter of right" to use the island area below the mean high water mark "or at least the right to travel through or otherwise use the navigable

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## False Bomb Threat

A false bomb threat was received at the CP&L nuclear power plant near Southport Tuesday night.

According to Brunswick County Sheriff Harold Willetts, an unidentified person called the CP&L security office and said a

bomb was set to go off in the No. 1 reactor at 8 p.m.

CP&L personnel conducted a search following the evacuation of Brown and Root employees. Workers returned about one hour later after no bomb was found.