



A LIFE PACK MONITOR has been placed into service at Doshier Memorial Hospital to help heart patients needing emergency care. Nursing Assistant Ruby King, Administrator Lorraine

Eichorn, Registered Nurse Dorothy Gore, and Director of Nurses Sarah Burnish, left to right, demonstrate the use of the Life Pack.

Mrs. Henry To Not Run

Mrs. A.P. Henry, Jr., announced this week she will not be a candidate for reelection as Chairman of the Democratic Executive Committee for Brunswick County.

"I am making this announcement before the first step is taken in setting up the new party organization, in order that those who have aspirations for this position can begin their work at the grassroots," she said. "I have greatly enjoyed my two-year term as county chairman of the Democratic organization and I appreciate the cooperation I have received from many sources. By working together we were able to achieve some notable successes in the general election two years ago. It is my hope that we will be able to do as well again," she observed.

In announcing her decision not to seek reelection as party chairman, she said she has other plans during the coming months which will make it impossible for her to continue in the role she has held for the past two years. She did not elaborate on these plans.

Mrs. Henry issued a reminder that precinct meetings will be held

throughout Brunswick County on Thursday night at 7:30 o'clock. All meetings will be held at the polling place for the respective precinct, she said.

She also called attention to the fact that, whereas quotas do not apply to precinct organization, she hopes that these ten-person committees will reasonably reflect the voter make-up of the precincts.

"Men and women, young and old, black and white, should be represented," she said.

The Brunswick County Democratic Convention will be held at Bolivia Middle School on Saturday, March 6, at 2 p.m.

Mrs. Henry also said that anyone desiring to be considered as delegate to the National Convention in New York in July must fill out a form declaring the name of his choice for President or that he is uncommitted. "I hope some persons from Brunswick County will want to become delegates," she said.

Mrs. Henry called attention to the forthcoming Jefferson-Jackson Day dinner in Raleigh on March 13. Tickets may be purchased from Mrs. Henry.

Chamber Sets Monday Meet

The organizational meeting of a permanent Southport-Oak Island Area Chamber of Commerce will be held Monday night at 7:30 p.m. at Jones' Restaurant, Long Beach.

Acting President John Barbee said elections will be held, charter members and special guests recognized and appropriate and necessary business discussed at the meeting.

Barbee said the chamber has "the membership and financial encouragement and a survey for a plan of action" because of the interest and active participation of residents who want to establish the organization.

He reported that a "dutch treat dinner" will be held at the restaurant, beginning at 6:30 p.m., prior to the meeting. Members are urged to attend and bring guests and prospective members.

Stamps With New System

In order to reduce the crowds and waiting time at the Social Services office in Southport, a new method of issuing food stamps will be started March 1.

Each household eligible for food stamps will be mailed a blue "Authorization to Purchase" card on March 1. This blue card must be presented at the Social Services office before food stamps can be purchased for March. No one will be allowed to buy food stamps who does not have this blue card and the green identification card.

The blue card will show purchase price and food stamp allotment. "This system will allow the Department of Social Services to speed up the sales transaction and will help in developing sales points in other parts of the county," said Director Joel Webb. "Food stamp recipients are requested not to come in until they receive their blue card."

Board Delays Choice Of Complex Architect

By BILL ALLEN
Staff Writer

The Brunswick County Board of Education failed to select an architect for its construction of the Brown-Knox courthouse - complex site during a regular meeting Monday night.

The board voted on a split decision to delay the selection of an architect "until a later date" following a long discussion. Member Franklin Randolph voted in opposition.

The problem developed because LBC&W of Columbia, S.C., one of the two firms being considered for the work, refused to give the board a price.

Vice-President John Boudreaux said that LBC&W could not provide the board with the fee charged for the services because of "our code of ethics and state statutes. This is as we understand the law. But we try to be competitive."

If LBC&W is selected, he said a fee could be negotiated within two days. The negotiated fee can be accepted or rejected by the board, he explained.

"I would be out of the picture if I had to quote you a fee before we are selected," Boudreaux told the board.

After interviewing a number of architectural firms in recent months, the board has narrowed the choice to LBC&W and Ballard, McKim and Sawyer of Wilmington. The Wilmington firm has provided the board with the fee that it will charge for the work.

Randolph said he had always believed a "local firm" should be selected if all things were equal. But he said LBC&W should be considered because it had been hired to do the work for the county. He said a new firm would have to go over some of the same work that LBC&W has done for the county.

Board Attorney Mason Anderson said he agreed with Randolph about trying to hire local firms. "But I don't understand why he can't give this board a price," Anderson declared.

Member Bill Sue told the board that he was not ready

By BILL ALLEN
Staff Writer

The Board of Education should know where it can locate the bus garage-maintenance facility on the Brown-Knox courthouse-complex site before the master plan is finalized.

Vice-President John Boudreaux of LBC&W, the Columbia, S.C., firm hired by the county to provide architectural and engineering services for the complex, made the announcement during a special joint meeting held between the Board of

Commissioners and the Board of Education Monday night.

Boudreaux said he believed his firm could obtain enough information to allow the school board to select a location before the master plan is completed in mid-April.

County Planner Johnny Sutton said that the office space needs survey, originally scheduled to be completed the first of March, could take an additional two weeks to finish because of delays.

Once the survey information is obtained, Boudreaux said LBC&W would need about five weeks to complete the master plan. A three-dimension model of the proposed facilities will be available at that time in mid-April, he pointed out.

Member Bill Sue said the school board wanted to get started on the bus garage-maintenance facility since \$300,000 has been budgeted in 1975-76 for the project.

"We are not that interested in the office space survey," Sue declared. "We want to

build the garage. The 19th of April is a long time off. We want to get something started. Every week, we are that much behind."

Sue told Commissioners W.T. Russ, Jr., that the school architect, who has not been hired, will need to look at the site where the facility will be located before he can start drawing up plans.

Assistant Supt. John Hicks, who is in charge of construction projects for the board, said it was looking "doubtful" that bids for the school facility could be let before the fiscal year ends on June 30. He said he wanted to know whether the commissioners would put the money back in the school budget next year for the project.

Commissioner Chairman Steve Varnam, Jr., said he felt the money would be placed back in the school budget next year, although the county board has not discussed the matter.

Commissioner Franky Thomas said he believed that the county board should establish a separate fund in the 1976-77 budget to " earmark" money for the complex to eliminate "speculation" about the project. "We have more capital improvement projects than the complex," he added.

Chairman Varnam said the county board could understand why the school board wanted to get started on the bus garage-maintenance facility. "We don't want to delay it," he stated. "We want to make sure it is put together in a

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School Roof Matter Heading For Court...

After delaying the decision for years, the Brunswick County Board of Education finally took action to correct the leaking roofs at the three high schools during a meeting Monday night.

The board voted unanimously to have Bullard, McKim and Sawyer, the Wilmington architectural firm hired to correct the problem, call for bids to repair and replace the roofs.

Even School Attorney Mason Anderson, who has been trying to compromise the matter, urged the board to act. "You are doing the right thing," Anderson declared. "Drive on."

Anderson told the board that he was "unhappy to report that it appears" that negotiations to have the contractors replace the roofs according to the Ballard, McKim and Sawyer specifications had broken down.

The school attorney said he was confident a settlement could be worked out until he received a call from the lawyers on the afternoon of the meeting. "The disagreement is between the architect and the builders,"

he reported. "That is the problem."

The board will spend about \$300,000 to have the work done and take the architect and contractors to court in order to recover the money.

In other business, the board voted unanimously not to allow the North Brunswick freshman class "make an extended educational tour involving travel to Georgia and Tennessee on April 19-25."

But the board voted unanimously to allow the students to make the trip provided a minimum of four teachers accompany the 100 students.

Both actions were recommended by Supt. Ralph

King, who said he needed the guidance of the board in the matter.

King said that school activity bus policy was unclear on the question. The policy said an activity bus was not to be used for over night trips unless under special provisions.

He said the North Brunswick local school committee had discussed the matter and had expressed no opposition.

Chairman Rabon and Sue said they had children in the freshman class at the school who planned to make the trip.

Sue said he was concerned about a bus having repair problems on the highway a long distance from Brunswick. (Continued on page 2)

Mayor Outlines Plans For Township Hospital

The Southport Woman's Club met Feb. 4 in a special evening session to hear a report from Mayor Eugene Tomlinson of Southport on, as he phrased it, "the continuing saga of 'As Doshier Turns'."

Mayor Tomlinson told the

club that with the services of Murchison, Fox & Newton, attorneys, and the architectural firm of Ballard, McKim and Sawyer, the license to continue to operate Doshier hospital is now secure with all deficiencies

corrected except the generator to be installed in three weeks on a lease-purchase agreement, and there now exists a legal base to improve and maintain the original facility despite original state opposition to more than one hospital.

Mayor Tomlinson explained that this now affords the voters of Smithville Township an opportunity to approve a bond issue, to be submitted to the voters on August 17, 1976.

The repayment of the bond issue, if approved, will be by special addition to the tax of Smithville landowners of four cents per \$100 of property valuation. The average homeowner with a \$25,000 home will pay \$10 per year.

Mayor Tomlinson stated that this bond issue of \$2 million would allow Smithville Township to completely renovate Doshier hospital. The existing building would be remodeled to provide ambulatory services and doctor's examining rooms.

The new construction, according to Mayor Tomlinson, would be "an extremely well-designed and efficiently arranged hospital" with plans for 51 beds (seven intensive care, six concentrated care and 38 medical-surgical).

Mayor Tomlinson gave this breakdown of costs: \$1.5 million for new construction; \$150,000 for remodeling of the old building and \$350,000 for equipment and architectural fees.

The tax of four cents on \$100 levied on Smithville Town- (Continued on page 2)

Groundbreaking For Hospital On Saturday

Groundbreaking ceremonies for Brunswick County Memorial Hospital will be held Saturday at the site west of Supply, weather permitting.

In case of rain, ceremonies will be held at Shallotte Middle School, it was announced by Hospital Authority Chairman Mason Anderson, who will preside over the program.

Guest speaker for the 2 p.m. activity will be James R. Felts, Jr., executive director of the Hospital and Child Care Section of The Duke Endowment. Ground-breaking will be done by members of the Hospital Authority and present and former county commissioners.

Music will be offered by bands from North, South and West Brunswick high schools.

Invocation will be given by Rev. David C. Adams of Soldier Bay Baptist Church at Ash. The benediction will be pronounced by Rev. H.O. Johnson of Southport.

The mayors of all towns, hospital officials, local doctors and state hospital representatives have been invited to attend the groundbreaking ceremony.

Work on the foundation of the hospital was started in December and officials hope for completion by December, 1977. The referendum which approved the new hospital construction and a \$2.5 - million bond issue was held in June, 1973.

to vote on the matter without a price.

"I don't think we should delay any longer," Randolph declared. "I don't see any reason to prolong it. This is the third time this thing has been before the board."

If the board cannot work out an acceptable fee with LBC&W, Randolph said he would make the motion to reject the firm.

Chairman Wilber Earl Rabon asked if the board wanted to delay the decision since Member Barbara Yount was absent. Mrs. Yount was unable to attend the meeting because she is expecting a baby "at any time," it was reported.

Randolph reported that Mrs. Yount told him that she would "go along" with any architect the board selected for the project.

In other business related to location on the complex, Assistant Supt. John Hicks gave the board a report on school office space needs.

He said the board would need 14,000 square feet and seven acres for the ad- (Continued on page 2)