

PRECINCT	REPUBLICAN		DEMOCRATS	
	FORD	REAGAN	CARTER	WALLACE
Hood Creek	10	23	91	38
Leland	12	27	103	136
Woodburn	12	7	64	81
Belville	20	19	64	50
Town Creek	46	21	109	86
Bolivia	92	63	126	90
Southport I	50	77	171	159
Southport II	22	27	196	75
Oak Island	97	92	257	179
Mosquito	12	14	56	24
Supply	33	29	160	42
Secession	17	30	203	127
Shalotte	23	32	126	108
Frying Pan	23	27	204	86
Grissettown	35	34	142	75
Shingletree	21	7	147	62
Longwood	9	8	99	17
Ash	48	39	44	88
Waccamaw	40	21	40	32
Exum	9	14	23	43
Absentee	2	3	12	1
TOTAL	633	614	2437	1599

## County Voters Favor Carter, Ford

By BILL ALLEN  
Staff Writer

Brunswick County voters supported one winner and one loser in the North Carolina presidential primary held Tuesday.

Former Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter won his fifth state primary in six tries when he scored an easy victory over Alabama Governor George Wallace in the Democrat primary in both Brunswick County and North Carolina.

But President Gerald Ford, who lost to former California Governor Ronald Reagan in North Carolina, squeaked to victory in Brunswick County. He edged Reagan by only 19 votes in the county. A total of 25 GOP voters marked "no

preference" on their ballots.

Brunswick County voters also opposed both Constitutional amendments on the ballots, but supported the higher education bond issue. All three were approved by voters across the state.

Brunswick County Board of Elections Executive Secretary Linda Babson reported that an estimated 37.6 percent of the registered voters in the county went to the polls Tuesday to cast ballots.

She said she considered it a "good" turnout since no local issues were on the ballot except at Oak Island, where consolidation was defeated. "It is a much higher voter turnout percentage than had been predicted for the state," Mrs. Babson pointed out.

Only about a dozen people gathered at the Board of Elections headquarters at Bolivia Tuesday night to see the county voting returns posted. The final tallies were received shortly before 11 p.m. Tuesday night.

Reagan scored a major victory in North Carolina when he upset President Ford 52 percent to 46 percent with 99 percent of the votes counted. A total of two percent of the voters in the state marked "no preference."

However, President Ford did defeat Reagan 633 to 614 votes in Brunswick County in the GOP primary. The President won 11 precincts in the county and Reagan nine in the close voting which was not decided until the last ballots were

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RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONIES for the new Ocean Trail Convalescent Center were held Sunday afternoon with Southport Mayor E.B. Tomlinson (second from left), having the ribbon

honors. Others left to right are Mrs. Mildred Whyllidke, administrator of the facility; Doug Hans, president of Ocean Trail and Philip King, Jr., vice-president.

## History Comes Alive In Weekend Activities

Brunswick County will come alive this weekend with a local Bicentennial festival, with a variety of activities planned to take place Saturday and Sunday in Southport.

The celebration will begin at 10 a.m. with the opening of the Armed Services Bicentennial Caravan on South Howe Street, featuring four large vans which present the history and contributions of each branch of service, and the opening of the Bicentennial Art Show at the public library.

\$1,000 in purchase awards will be made in the art show by the county Bicentennial Committee. Judge for the event will be Miss Hester Donnelly of Wilmington, with the deadline for entering Friday at 3 p.m.

A demonstration, display and sale of local crafts will begin at 10:30 a.m. in the Daughters of America Building. Participating will be the Senior Citizens Group from the Leland Center of SENCLAND Community Action, Miss Sally Cole of Ash and her sand art, and Charles Keller of Southport and his woodcarving.

The U.S. Savings Bond awards in student essay contest will be presented at 2 p.m. on Howe Street, or in the library in case of bad weather.

A special aspect of the

celebration will be the first public appearance in Brunswick County of the American Heritage Mobile Museum. This museum displays the collection of antique guns and edged weapons of R.G. Hobbs and his son, R.G. Hobbs, Jr., of

Leland. Included in the display are Kentucky Rifles and Plains Rifles; Civil War muskets, carbines and swords; local battlefield-dug rufacts and relics; and a coin and old paper money collection. There will be food con-

cessions located on Howe Street near the Caravan, whose profits will support county Bicentennial projects such as a new library for the West Brunswick area and "Revolution!" An information booth will also be set up, with tickets and information available for both "Revolution!" and the North Carolina Fourth of July Festival.

Saturday's activities will end with a presentation of "I Love America" at 8 p.m. at Hatch Auditorium, Fort Caswell. Two choral groups, one in Southport and one in Shalotte, have been practicing since the first of January for this performance.

"This is the one Bicentennial festival the county Bicentennial committee is planning, and it is hoped that all county citizens will come enjoy it," stated Mary Gornito, executive director of the Bicentennial Committee. She also announced that admission for all of the events is free.

### No Consolidation

Yaupon Beach residents overwhelmingly voted against consolidation of Oak Island in Tuesday's referendum, although the tally of votes from the two communities showed the majority favoring merger.

The Yaupon Beach vote was 82 in favor of consolidation but 192 opposed, while Long Beach voters endorsed the plan 321 to 78. Overall, the proposal was approved 403 to 270 but it had been made clear that a negative vote in either Oak Island town would void the issue.

Yaupon Beach Board of Elections Chairman Ernie Rees said the turnout was "pretty good" considering it was "only a referendum." Long Beach Chairman Troy Davis reported just under a 50-percent turnout there.

## Beach Water Plans Waiting For County

By ED HARPER  
News Editor

Long Beach is ready to move on improvements to its water system but can do nothing until information is received from the county, town board members agreed last Wednesday night.

"We need these answers yesterday," emphasized Mayor H.S. Crain, urging the town to "pursue vigorously" information that would define the county's role in the beach water project. Town commissioners remembered that the county was to have some answers by March 15 and would inform the town. But in an informal conversation on Friday, County Commissioner Franky Thomas said the county still didn't have the information Long Beach wants.

The primary hang-up, as noted in a report to commissioners by Town Manager John Berry, is that no one knows when the Phase I water line will be put across — or under — the Intraoceanal Waterway. "I don't think it is any of our business 'how' they put the line across the waterway," said the mayor, "but 'when.' That's the problem."

The discussion followed Berry's report about steps to take prior to a water bond referendum, which involves steps that would take about 75 days. The vote could be held ten days after but not closer

than 30 days before" other elections. The next vote is slated for August 17, date of the Democratic and Republican primaries.

Commissioner Ellis Dudley said he hoped the town would go no further with its plans for a water system until the

information was received from the county commissioners. He said the town was promised answers by the 15th of the month about rates to be charged, status of the planned elevated tank and the laying of water lines in Long Beach.

Crain, who has a background in engineering, said he thought it "would be better for us" for the town to put in the tank and main lines. "But we'll have to wait and see what they (county officials) come up with."

"We're in a bottle right now," Commissioner Russell Morrison noted. He said the town had hoped for a May 29 vote on the project.

Board member Nancy Leggett said the commissioners needed to elaborate further on the answer to an earlier question from spectator Woody Vennel about what areas the proposed water system would serve.

The engineers "are not sure what is Phase I," it was noted. Town Manager Berry said that until a preliminary report is made the town can't give the answer. He said a "draft" of the report does show there is no way to serve all the beach community.

"But not just the beach property would be served," Mrs. Leggett made clear.

Mayor Crain, who pointed out that he lives in an area that definitely will not be served by Phase I, said it looks like a complete system might be installed from the eastern town limits to the vicinity of 62nd Street. It is "obviously impossible," he said, "with \$2 million to cover this whole island."

"There is no way to serve (Continued on page 12)

## Beach Census Starts Monday

Final plans for the Special Federal Census of Long Beach, being taken at the expense of the town, were told this week by Census Supervisor Mary F. Garris of the Census Bureau's Charlotte Regional Office.

Mrs. Garris said she plans to arrive in Long Beach just prior to March 29, and will set up temporary headquarters in the Long Beach Town Hall. Her first activity on Monday will be the testing and interviewing of Census applicants, who have previously filed an application at Town Hall.

From this group she will select three Enumerators, more commonly known as Census Takers, who will be intensively trained by her Census techniques and rules that afternoon. Immediately following the training, the Census Takers will fan out over the town to begin their door-to-door canvass.

All Census Takers will carry an official red, white and blue identification card which will make them known as official but temporary

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### Town Meeting To Be Tonight

The final meeting of the Bicentennial Forum series of town meetings will be held at 7:30 tonight (Wednesday) at the Brunswick County Courthouse.

The program had been scheduled for Monday night but was postponed due to a death in the family of the featured speaker.

## Woman Badly Hurt In House Fire Here

By BILL ALLEN  
Staff Writer

An elderly Southport woman is in "critical condition" in a Wilmington hospital after being removed from her burning home here early Sunday morning.

Mrs. Jeannette V. Driscoll, who is about 76 and lives alone, was unconscious when she was removed from the flaming house on North Frink Drive, Southport Fire Chief Ormond Leggett reported.

## Rescue Volunteers To Meet Thursday Night

All volunteers who are interested in joining the Southport Rescue Squad have been asked to attend an organizational meeting Thursday night at 7:30 p.m. at the Fire Department.

"People have told us that they are interested in joining the squad," Chief Ormond Leggett stated. "We are holding this meeting to find out how interested they are and what qualifications they have."

Chief Leggett said that all volunteers who would like to

serve as drivers or attendants on one of the squad's ambulances should attend the meeting.

"We will be getting down to brass tacks at this meeting," the chief declared. "We will have to be ready to provide ambulance service April 1 or Southport will be without ambulance service at that time."

Gilbert Ambulance Service, Inc., which took over ambulance service in the city in late December, has informed city officials that it

will answer its last call on March 31.

"We have got to start providing ambulance service on April 1 at 12:01 a.m.," Chief Leggett stated. "There are no and's, but's or or's about that."

"We are having to do a lot of work in a short period of time since we were only informed that we would take over ambulance service here last week," he pointed out.

Gilbert Ambulance officials told the Southport Board of Aldermen that the company would have to obtain a \$20,000 donation each year to provide the service. Aldermen decided that it would be cheaper in the long run to put the Rescue Squad in the ambulance business.

Chief Leggett said the Rescue Squad will take over the two ambulances Gilbert Ambulance has been using on April 1. The bank, which owns the ambulances, let Gilbert use the two vehicles when Care Ambulance went out of business.

The Southport Rescue Squad will continue to use the fire station until a new headquarters can be built in the future. Residents needing an ambulance will call the Police Department for service.

"One of the biggest problems we will be facing is (Continued on page 2)

This was not the worst fire we have had in Southport," Chief Leggett said. "But the thing that makes it horrible was the fact we knew someone was in the house and we could not find her because (Continued on page 2)