

Candidate Deadline Is Friday

Commissioner Willie Sloan is the first incumbent to file for re-election to the Brunswick County governing board.

Sloan, a Democrat who was first elected in 1974, is the first member of the present Board of Commissioners to file for re-election. He represents Town Creek and is the vice-chairman of the board.

Thomas E. (Tommy) Gilbert, IV, of Southport filed as a candidate for re-election to the coroner's post. He was appointed to the post earlier this year.

The only other candidate to enter the race this week is James H. Matthews, who will be challenging Sloan for his Town Creek seat on the county board in the Democrat primary in August.

Sloan is the first incumbent on the board to make his intentions official that he will seek re-election. Commissioner W.T. Russ, Jr., has already announced that he will not be a candidate for re-election.

More Filings Are Reported

Two new candidates entered the race for public office on Tuesday. The Pilot was informed.

Marie Hart, who is a native of Southport, filed as a candidate for a seat on the Brunswick County Board of Education. A registered nurse, Mrs. Hart is the mother of four children.

Magistrate Roney Cheers of Shallotte filed for District Court judge in the 13th District, which includes Brunswick, Columbus and Bladen counties. He is seeking the seat held by Judge Lewis Sauls, who is stepping down.

Although five candidates are running for the District Court judge post, Cheers is the only one from Brunswick County. He has had 26-years' experience as a magistrate, justice of the peace and mayor's court judge.

CP&L Cooling Tower Project Is Suspended

Carolina Power & Light Co. has suspended construction of cooling towers at its Brunswick nuclear power plant near Southport following an order last Tuesday by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

The order amends CP&L's license to allow an eight-month delay in completion of the \$72.3-million cooling towers originally scheduled to be operational May 1, 1978.

The contractor installing the cooling towers has been notified to begin an orderly demobilization of the construction force immediately.

CP&L has already spent \$42.3 million on a previously approved cooling system, and has contended that the cooling towers ordered installed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) are unnecessary.

The company has asked for a hearing on the cooling towers, and this hearing is scheduled to begin June 2 in Raleigh. The NRC order has



A BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION was held Friday morning at South Brunswick High School. Here, Principal Mark Owens (standing) awaits the presentation of the Bicentennial proclamation from minutewoman Vicki Sullivan, on horseback. The program included burial of a

time capsule to be opened in the year 2076, recognition of retired teachers, and keynote speeches by Southport Mayor Eugene Tomlinson and Haywood Starling, director of the State Bureau of Investigation.

Beach Planning Board Adds McNeill, Helms

By BILL ALLEN
Staff Writer

The appointment of two new members to the Planning Board highlighted the regular monthly meeting of the Long Beach Board of Com-

missioners last Wednesday night.

Don McNeill and Tommy Helms were appointed to serve two-year terms on the board on a split decision. They replace Jerry Wood, who asked not to be re-appointed, and member Otto Maehl.

Maehl and Bessy Higgins, who were recommended by the Planning Board, McNeill and Helms were nominated to be members of the board.

Chairman Rosetta Short spoke on behalf of the two Planning Board nominees. She said that Maehl was a veteran member while Mrs.

Higgins had volunteered to serve. She questioned whether McNeill would have time to serve because of his other activities. She said she did not know that Helms was going to be nominated.

Mayor Harold Crain asked Town Attorney James Preatte, Jr., questions concerning the proper method to vote to appoint members to the board. The last time appointments were made questions were raised because it was done by secret ballot.

Preatte said recent court decisions had outlawed secret ballot voting by board

members. He said ballots could be used if the votes of each member were announced publicly.

McNeill and Helms were elected when they received the votes of Commissioners Nancy Leggett, Bill Jones, Russell Morrison and Carroll Adams. Mayor Crain and Commissioner Ellis Dudley cast their ballots for Maehl and Mrs. Higgins.

In other business, Warren Calloway was re-appointed and Pauline Morgan appointed to serve on the Board of Adjustments on a split decision. Mrs. Morgan, who

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Arrest Not Quite Made In Shooting

By BILL ALLEN
Staff Writer

No arrests have been made in the Wilson's shooting-robbery case because the Sheriff's Department could not obtain a search warrant when needed, Sheriff Herman Strong said this week.

"It is my belief that, had we been able to obtain the search warrant, we would have the subject in custody and charged with the crimes," Sheriff Strong declared.

Sheriff Strong said his department found enough evidence after the crime to obtain the search warrant to look inside a house. But he said that Magistrate Ephraim Swain refused to

issue the search warrant.

"With this information (evidence) and belief, we went to the magistrate's office to obtain the warrant to search one particular house," the law officer reported. "But he refused to issue the warrant because we did not know the name of the individual."

The Pilot tried without success Tuesday to reach Swain for comment on the matter.

Sheriff Strong said the Department finally obtained a search warrant when District Court opened in Southport on Tuesday morning. "It was too late then and the subject had already left," he pointed out.

Sheriff Strong said it was his belief, based on ex-

perience, that the magistrate system needs to be reformed. "I feel the magistrates in this county have too much authority as appointed officials in making decisions in these matters and are a hindrance to law enforcement," he stated.

Sheriff Strong said the investigation into the shooting-robbery at Wilson's is continuing. He said he hoped an arrest can be made soon.

Manager Jim Brown was shot while closing Wilson's, which is located on Howe Street in Southport, shortly before midnight last Monday.

He was locking the door when he was approached by one man wearing a mask. After handing over the

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County Land Use Plan Is Approved

The Brunswick County land-use plan, required by the Coastal Area Management Act, was unanimously approved during a meeting of the county commissioners Thursday night.

County Planning Director Johnny Sutton told the board that the newly-revised land-use plan includes a recommendation that the state establish three new land-use subdivisions.

The county is proposing that rural industrial, rural residential and conservation industrial access be added to the five land use classifications already in effect.

The sub-classifications are needed, he explained, because the state said the county had too much land in transition in the preliminary land-use plan submitted last fall. According to the state definition, transition is areas which must be provided water and sewer services in the next ten years.

"The new classifications are needed to protect ourselves to expand services when we can afford it," Sutton declared.

After Sutton explained the revised land-use plan — Alternate III — it was unanimously approved by the board. The alternate was put in its final form only hours prior to the meeting.

The board took no action, following a long discussion, on a request made by the Lockwood Folly Citizens Advisory Committee to outlaw high-rise development in the county.

Sutton told the board that much work had to be done to meet the state guidelines

concerning the number of square miles in the county that could be placed in the transition classification.

He told the board that the state said the county had too much land in transition in the preliminary proposal. Alternate I called for 90 square miles in transition, which would have cost \$362 million to provide the required water and sewer services.

The second alternate developed would have limited growth in the county since only 20 square miles would be placed in transition at a cost of \$70 million.

Alternate III allows the county to have 29.53 square miles in transition. It also has 1.4 square miles in development (the City of Southport) and 28.41 square miles in the community classification.

Within the county planning district, which excludes Southport, Long Beach, Holden Beach and Sunset Beach which are doing their own planning, the county will

have 25.47 square miles in transition and 25.21 square miles in community.

Sutton said the county is proposing that the rural classification be divided into rural industrial and rural residential. The county will have 56.5 square miles in rural industrial and 27.1 square miles in rural residential.

In rural industrial areas, Sutton proposed that no public services other than water be provided and that the cost of distribution be paid by private sources. In rural residential areas, services will be regulated and must be financed by the private interests if development occurs prior to 1985. Industrial access will be permitted in the conservation industrial section.

Sutton said the estimated total service cost for Alternate III has been placed at \$91,383,241. He said the initial investment of about \$22,559,592 will be provided by the federal and state

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Funds Distributed

Brunswick County and ten municipal governments have received \$158,839 from first-quarter distribution of the local-option sales and use tax.

The county receives the largest share — \$143,651 — while the following amounts have been forwarded to the towns: Boiling Spring Lakes \$543; Bolivia \$73; Calabash \$153; Holden Beach \$1,249; Long Beach \$5,708; Ocean Isle Beach \$883; Shallotte \$1,338; Southport \$3,212; Sunset Beach \$818; and Yaupon Beach \$1,206.

Recently-incorporated towns of Shady Forest and Caswell Beach do not share in the proceeds.

Monthly collections during the first quarter were in the low-\$50,000 range. However, the Department of Revenue reports that during April the total jumped to \$68,432.



"LITTLE MISS N.C. FOURTH of July is Julianne Elizabeth Harper, five-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Harper of Southport, who was crowned Saturday night by Miss N.C. Fourth of July Margaret Hawes (right). There were 23 entries in the first annual pageant, held at Southport Primary School. Other photographs and the story are on the inside of this week's Pilot.