

## 'Revolution!' Sets Tuesday Premiere

"Revolution!", Brunswick County's open air musical drama, opens its premiere season Tuesday night.

The historical drama will be presented at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday until August 7, with special performances on July 4, in Franklin Square Park in Southport.

Among special guests at the opening performance will be Mrs. Grace Rohrer, secretary of

the Department of Cultural Resources.

"Revolution!" is based on authentic colonial history. A main episode is concerned with the first armed resistance to the Stamp Act which occurred in Old Brunswick Town eight years before the Boston Tea Party in 1773.

The music for "Revolution!" was written by Southport native Lewis Hardee, Jr. Libretto was written by Ethan Ayer.

Wayne Turnage of New York City will star as Gov. William Tryon and Susan Griffin of High Point will appear as Justina Nash. Miss Griffin was Miss North Carolina in 1975.

Other special guests expected to attend the drama's opening night are David L. Jones, secretary of the Department of Corrections; Miss North Carolina of 1976, Susie Profit of Rutherford County; Dick Ellis, State Bicen-

ennial Committee chairman; Brunswick County commissioners; Ralph C. King, Brunswick County superintendent of schools.

Also expected to attend are Miss Brunswick County, Diane King of Bolivia and Miss N.C. Fourth of July, to be chosen on Saturday.

Following the premiere performance will be a cast party for visiting dignitaries, patrons and cast.

### Butler, Two Others Drop From Race

Commissioner Ira Butler, Jr., and two other Smithville Democratic candidates for the county board have stepped down from the race.

Butler, Wayland Vereen and Gerald Cochran, all of Southport, have officially withdrawn from the race for the Smithville seat on the county board, county Board of Elections Executive Secretary Linda Babson reported.

The withdrawals leave only Yaupon Beach Mayor Marvin Watson and Harley Evans of Supply running for the Democratic nomination to represent Smithville Township on the county board.

The decisions to withdraw were apparently made after two meetings of registered Democratic voters were held in Southport last week. A general meeting at the courthouse was followed by a breakfast session.

Butler admitted it was most unusual for an incumbent to withdraw after filing for reelection. But he said he made the decision because he needed more time to operate his business — Herman's Restaurant.

He said that operating the restaurant and serving on the

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FINISHING TOUCHES are being put on "Revolution!", the outdoor musical drama set to open here Tuesday night. Here, three of the actresses go through a dress rehearsal.

## Hospital Vote To Be Held, Says Attorney

The Smithville Township hospital referendum will be held, as scheduled, on August 17.

Chairman Johnny Mills, Jr., of the Brunswick County Board of Elections made the announcement after receiving information from both the State Board of Elections and County Attorney James Prevatte, Jr.

State Director of Elections Alex Brock told Mills in a letter that the county board should follow the written advice of the county attorney about whether the election can be held.

Prevatte, who made his position clear at a recent commissioners meeting, advised the county board to hold the election. "It is my opinion that the Brunswick County Board of Elections proceed to conduct the subject election," the county attorney told Mills in a letter.

A question raised whether the referendum could be held was not resolved after two letters were received from

the N.C. Attorney General's office about the referendum. The question involved who is the governing body of a township.

Assistant Attorney General Robert Reilly said in the first letter that "the Brunswick County Board of Elections is without authority to hold an election on the question of establishing a public hospital for Smithville Township."

He said in the second letter that his first opinion did "not settle the question as a matter of law."

Mills contacted Brock after the town opinions received from the Attorney General's office did not resolve the question.

"It is not our intent to contribute to the apparent confusion already engendered by the advisory opinions and memorandum of law issued by the Attorney General," Brock told Mills in a letter.

"While we are confident the guidance contained in the (first) letter from the

Attorney General remains sound and appropriate, we also recognize that such advice is not binding upon Brunswick County," he continued. "It would follow, therefore, that instruction from this office would likely receive equal disagreement."

Brock said he wanted to "strongly advise" that the county board take four steps "in consideration of the fact that the center question does not involve potential litigation wherein the uniform administration of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina would be threatened."

He said the county board should request "an immediate written advisory" from the county attorney giving a legal opinion on the question of whether the board should or should not conduct the election.

Brock said the election board should "follow the written advice issued by the county attorney." He said all

further legal questions should be referred to the county attorney, "who is the legal officer of record to represent the Brunswick County Board of Elections."

After following the advice contained in the letter, Brock told Mills that the Brunswick County election board should "remove itself from debate and discussion, referring all questions to the county attorney."

After receiving Brock's letter, Mills contacted Prevatte. "You can understand the urgency in this matter," Mill said in a letter to Prevatte. "Therefore, we are asking for an immediate legal opinion, in writing, as to whether the Brunswick County Board of Elections should or should not conduct such election."

Prevatte's legal advice to Mills follows: "The legislature has seen fit to enact Article 2 of Chapter 131 of the General

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## Chances Seen Good For Water Approval

By EMILY HIGHTOWER  
Staff Writer

Informal discussions with Long Beach residents seem to indicate many favor passage of the water bond referendum, to be voted on Tuesday.

Persons who oppose the sale of \$2.9 million of General Obligation bonds to finance expansion of the town water system seem to be silent, or non-existent.

The reason most often pointed out for expanding the town's small system is that without town water, Long Beach cannot grow. Hannon Templeton, chairman of Neighborhood Citizens for a

Better and Safer Long Beach, said an adequate sewer system is necessary to continue to increase house construction and rentals. He points out that a town water system is a prerequisite for a sewer system.

Neighborhood Citizens is a volunteer group working in support of the water system expansion. The group has been endorsed by the Long Beach Volunteer Fire Department, the Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce, the Oak Island Lions' Club, Mayor Hal Crain and the Long Beach Town Commissioners.

Long Beach resident

Rosetta Short said, "There is a possibility of future development being jeopardized unless we get water and sewer."

"People don't realize that just because their well works today it will not necessarily work forever."

John Berry, Long Beach town manager, said water from the proposed town system would be "quality water inspected by the state." Long Beach would buy water for its system wholesale from the Brunswick County water system.

Town water, Berry said, would cause less rusting and corrosion because it would

contain fewer minerals. The water would be treated by the county, he said.

Expansion of the present town system would provide an adequate water supply for fire protection, thus lowering fire insurance rates for residents, Berry said.

The town's water system is now inadequate to serve the 500 residences and business now on it. Supply and pressure are low, Berry said.

During Easter when many tourists were in town, Templeton said, many of the beachfront cottages were without water because the

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## Phase I Construction Is Approved By Board

By BILL ALLEN  
Staff Writer

Phase I construction at the new courthouse complex site was approved during a meeting of the Brunswick County commissioners on Monday.

"We can go full blast ahead," said John Boudreaux, a consultant on the project, after the board gave unanimous approval to Phase I construction.

Boudreaux told the board that he hoped that groundbreaking ceremonies can be

held at the site outside Bolivia this fall. He said he hoped the bid date can be set at the next meeting.

"Continue full steam," Commissioner Willie Sloan told Boudreaux and Friday Hodges of LBC&W, architects and engineers on the project.

The board also approved preliminary plans for the bus garage - maintenance center, which will be a joint facility at the complex with the Brunswick County Board of Education.

Construction planned in Phase I includes court

facilities, district attorney offices, adult probation and parole offices, magistrate offices, clerk of court offices, register of deeds office, sheriff's department, jail facilities, coroner offices, tax supervisor and collector offices, county administration and governing board, personnel and purchasing and finance department.

Boudreaux said the county has \$2,213,000 on hand to do the Phase I work, which will cost an estimated \$2,209,757.

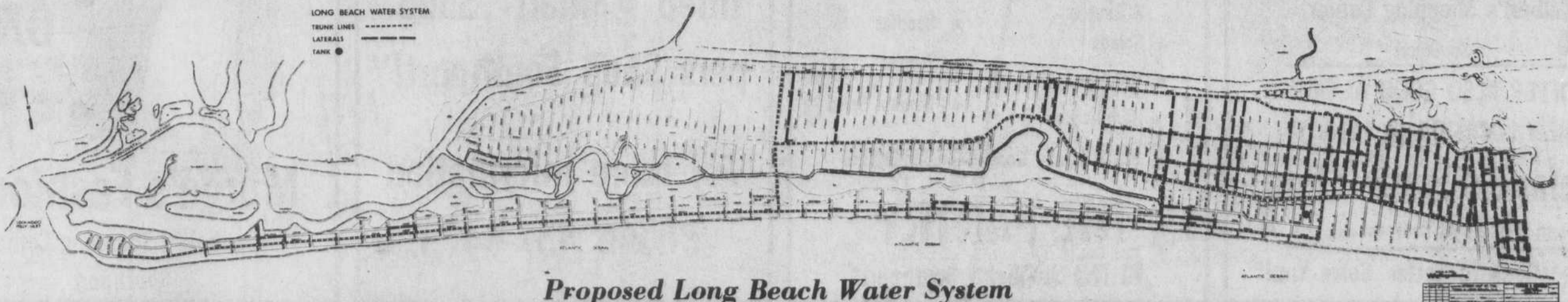
County Manager Don Flowers, Jr., said that he,

Boudreaux and County Planner Johnny Sutton will present a work plan at the next meeting.

Commissioner Franky Thomas questioned the procedure used by the committee to set the priorities for Phase I construction at the site. He said residents have been asking questions since the Social Services and Health departments, which serve a large number of people in the county, are not included in

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LONG BEACH WATER SYSTEM  
TRUNK LINE - - - - -  
LATERALS - - - - -  
TANK ●



Proposed Long Beach Water System