County's Seventh Magistrate Enjoys Learning New System

BY TERRY POPE Leland resident Floyd Sellers spent
more than 20 years as a traveling more than 20 years as a traveling
salesman, but his newest job has "opened different challenges." Sellers, 54 , was sworn in last month as Brunswick County's newest magistrate, filling a position that has remained "frozen" along with
several other state offices for several years. Clark of Elizabethtown recently chose Sellers from two nominees recommended for the position by Greg Bellamy. Clark said the other nominee was a Shallotte woman. In July, Franklin Freeman Jr., ad ministrator of the N.C. Administrative Vifice of the Couits. agreed to allocate to Brunswick
County one of several magistrate positions funded last June by the state legislature. Sellers' appointment will give the county seven mapistrates fo
several years.
The appointment actually re estabiishes a previousiy existing position that was left vacant by the state during a hiring freeze years apen after a magistrate holding the position left because of a disability. Magistrates work certain days in
Shallotte, Southport and Leland and provide 24 -hour coverage at the county complex near Bolivia, working
four days on and four days off in four days on and four days off in
12-hour shifts. Sellers, who will remain at the Boivia office on a permanent basis,
began training part-time for thie posibegan training part-time for the posi-
tion prior to the Christmas holidays. Magistrate Lela Osborne, who is supervising Sellers' during his training session, said she will recommend next week to Chief District Court
Judge William C. Gore that Sellers be Judge William C. Gore that Sellers be
authorized to begin work on a fullauthorized to begin work on a full-
time basis.
"Im learning a lot of things didn't know, abrut law and about peopie, ioo, seliers sald.
He first applied for the job two years agbu, when the position became
vacant. When the job was funded durvacant. When the job was funded dur-
ing the summer, his application was already on file.


FLOYD SELLERS
"It's been very challenging. Its not a very boring joi, iii teil you
that," Sellers added. "For me, I've never been involved with law before,

Leland Suit Did Not Seek To Remove Homes

A group of Leland residents who Instead, the defendants' attorney sought a Superior Court judge's rui- asked for 'and received a superior
ing in Auguist over deed restritions
 on their lots did not ask that mobile "restrictive covenants were not
homes in their neighborhood be withdrawn" from the lots sold to both removed, said Patricia Renshaw, one of the plaintiffs in the lawsuit. In a Dec. 27 Brunswick Beacon ar ticle, it was incorrectly stated the Long Acres subdivision residents,
who own brick homes, filed suit who own brick homes, filed suit ed from their neighborhood."
"A rumor had gotten out that we were trying to move mobilie homes ofí of the circie (moinie nome
court)," Ms. Renshaw iaid "W court)," Ms. Renshaw said. "We
were not trying to put anybody out of their homes."

## more I enjoy it Sellers will attend an Institute of

 magistrates in Chapel Hill on FebMagistrates initiate the crimina process. If someone comes to them with a complaint, they decide if there been committed. If so, they sigr an arrest warrant.
Warrants are also obtained from mapistrates by the sheriff's depart ment during criminal investigations After someone is arrested, they must bond and can accept certain misde meanor guilty pleas and/or waiver or certain offenses and assess fines Iney are aiso involved in the civi side of the courts, conducting small granting reief for claims up to $\$ 1,060$ and handiling other cases. In addition to Sellers and Ms. Osborne, Brunswick County's othe magistrates are as follows: Rone Cheers of Shailotte; Phiil Yount o Bolivia; Ephraim Swain of Beach; and Arthur Sue of Leland. brick homeowners and adjacen mobile home residents. According to the lawsuit, severa Long Acres residents purchased lot in the subdivision from Ocsar Long
Jr . and Doris Long thinking "the one block area would only consist $\$ 35,000$ or more brick homes." Following the judge's order, seve esidents in the abutting mebil nome court iiled a separate lawsui Dec. 10 against the Longs, seeking for moving their mobile homes.


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Senior Citizens To Meet Monday Annett Mussel white of Comprehenspeaker at the Holden Beach Senior Citizens meeting Monday, Jan. 14, at 7:30 p.m.
All residents 55 or older are invited to attend the meeting at the Tri Beach Volunteer Fire Department.

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