

Beth Osiek, Billy Carter Push For District 3 Seat

A former county manager is running against a school employee and parent volunteer for the District 3 seat on the Brunswick County Board of Education.

Democrat William D. "Billy" Carter wants to bring his experience in county management, budgeting and business to the policy-making board, while Republican Elisabeth (Beth) Osiek offers her experiences and concerns as PTA leader and teacher assistant.

Neither of the Oak Island residents had a May primary. Carter was unopposed; Osiek was named to the ticket by the Brunswick County Republican Party to fill the vacancy created when incumbent William Fairley of Southport withdrew his bid for re-election. Frustrated by fellow board members' decision to abandon a hardfought policy opposed by teachers, Fairley decided not to seek a second term, but has maintained an active role on the board during the balance of his first.

Candidates for the school board run from the district in which they reside, but are elected by voters

countywide. The winner of this election will serve a two-year term.

Here are the candidates' answers to three questions posed by *The Brunswick Beacon*.

1. What specific steps do you think the school system should take to generate more interest in education among Brunswick County parents?

Carter says he supports and encourages "external programs" that promote parent and school involvement. According to Carter, "these (external) programs as well as the school system must recognize and understand that parents and students come from different socio-economic conditions and programs and communications must be inclusive instead of exclusive."

Osiek advocates four specific steps: help support academic contests and competitions at each school and countywide; encourage mentoring programs at each school; develop parenting workshops covering student-related topics at each school; and develop greater communication between the school system

and the parents, keeping in touch about programs and ideas that are working through a special newsletter sent to each address in the county.

2. Both the general public and county officials say they have trouble understanding the school system budget (\$52 million this year) and in determining how responsibly the school system uses the money it receives from the federal, state and county governments. What do you think the Brunswick County Board of Education should do to make the budget easier to understand and to be more accountable for the money it spends?

Carter says the budget process must start early and include a public hearing, the budget should be directed by the school board's and superintendent's objectives for that year and that the budget should include those objectives and relate how expenditures will help meet objectives. He says the budget should show requested and approved sums for each school and administration line-item detail and include expected revenue

from all sources, with a capital improvement expenditures tied to a five-year plan that includes priorities. For each special program he recommends providing background on each program's origin, objectives, evaluation means, line item expenditures and revenue sources.

Osiek advocates conducting the central office performance audit requested by commissioners and school board; making all expenditures of the school system readily available for public knowledge; not using abbreviations in the budget without explanation; and providing budget copies with expenses by line item.

3. Many parents and educators aren't happy with the current practice of dismissing students early on Wednesdays. Is this practice justified? Why or why not?

Carter doesn't think the practice of early student dismissals on Wednesday is justified. "I believe quality time with teachers to students is important," he says, "and any break in that time hurts. Substitute and make-up time usually

loses quality."

He recommends evaluating the reason for the pull-out times and then looking to change the reason. "There are enough barriers for teachers to teach; let's start removing them instead of creating them."

As a parent, Osiek says she's "not sure our children are getting the most out of early release Wednesdays."

"I see the value for grade-level and multi-grade level planning, perhaps every other Wednesday."

DISTRICT 3 SCHOOL BOARD

WILLIAM D. (BILLY) CARTER

Age: 55
Occupation: retired county manager, Brunswick County, 1979-1987; part-time consultant

Political Party: Democrat

Education: graduate, Executive Development Program and County & Municipal Program, Institute of Government, UNC-Chapel Hill; B.A., Fayetteville State University; mortuary science degree, Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science; certificates in budget and financial management, capital programming, budgeting, personnel administration and planning

Previous offices: elected Bladen County Board of Education, 1972; served as Clarkton Town Commissioner, 1968-1972; Garland Town Commissioner, 1964-67

Related experience: leadership as past president, current board member, Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce; chairman, Brunswick County Register of Deeds Advisory Board; vice president, Lower Cape Fear Water & Sewer Authority; member, Brunswick County Economic Development Commission; board member, Southeastern Welcome Center; past chairman and current board member, First Citizens Bank, Southport



B. CARTER

ELISABETH (BETH) OSIEK

Age: 41
Occupation: teacher assistant/bus driver, Southport Elementary

Political Party: Republican

Education: graduate, Brentwood (Mo.) High School; attended University of Kansas majoring in political science

Previous offices: president, Southport Elementary PTA, 1992-1994; first vice president, Brunswick County PTA Council, 1993-94; Republican Party Precinct Chairperson, Lake County, Ohio, 1984-85

Related experience: parent volunteer, six years; served two years on Brunswick County Performance Based Accountability Committee



OSIEK

STRONG TURNOUT EXPECTED

Brown, Hewett Face Off For Top Cop Job

Ronald E. Hewett of Supply won a hard-fought Democratic Party primary contest between four other law enforcement officers last May, capturing enough of a voting majority to avoid a runoff election.

Republican challenger James Brown of Southport, who is making his third election bid for sheriff, was endorsed by the local Republican Party Executive Committee more than a year before the primaries. He was unopposed in the May primary.

Each candidate was asked the following questions:

1. What specific actions would you take as sheriff to further discourage illegal drug activity in Brunswick County?

Brown: By stepping up enforcement in areas of the county with "open air drug markets." By utilizing the Emergency Response Team in the "high risk" drug trafficking areas and by utilizing state and local agencies for undercover operations in combined efforts to deter illegal drug activities.

Hewett: (1) Form a multi-agency violent crime/drug task force consisting of local, state and federal agents. (2) Promote cooperation between all law enforcement agencies in the county. (3) Increase boat patrols of local waterways. (4) Expand the canine program to increase the use of drug-sniffing dogs. (5) Expand training to keep narcotics officers aware of the latest enforcement techniques and equipment. (6) Promote the training and equipping of the Emergency Response Team. (7) Expand the DARE program into junior and senior high schools.

2. Besides controlling drug trafficking, what can be done to cut down on the number of break-ins reported throughout Brunswick County?

Brown: Stronger Community Watch programs, utilizing citizens of Brunswick County as well as increasing the patrol division in the Brunswick County Sheriff's Department in order to remove the opportunity and desire to commit the break-ins.

Hewett: (1) Increase citizen participation through expanded crime prevention programs. Citizens should feel that they are an integral part of the solution to property crime. (2) Get deputies out of cars and into communities more. This

SHERIFF RONALD E. HEWETT

Age: 31
Occupation: Lieutenant, Brunswick County Sheriff's Department (deputy since 1983); Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program coordinator and narcotics investigator (since 1990).

Education: B.A. degree in criminal justice (UNC-Wilmington, 1985); N.C. Basic Law Enforcement Certificate (1983); N.C. Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate (1989); graduate of West Brunswick High School.

Offices/awards: United States DARE Officer of the Year (1993); North Carolina DARE Officer of the Year (1993).

Related experience: Holden Beach Police Officer (1983); certified emergency medical technician (EMT); certified law enforcement instructor (over 1,000 hours taught); certified cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) instructor.



HEWETT

JAMES BROWN

Age: 45
Occupation: Owner, James E. Brown Auto Sales and Service, Inc.

Education: High school graduate; U.S. Army Non-commissioned Officer Academy and Intelligence/Military Police School; N.C. Basic Law Enforcement Certificate (1994).

Offices/awards: Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, 1969. **Related experience:** Reserve patrolman, Southport Police Department (1994); supervised security for European missile site (1972-75); member of Fayetteville/Ft. Bragg Investigation Division (1970-72).



BROWN

will help improve the bond between police and the community. (3) With community support, we can and will make a dent in the illegal drug trade, which will cut down on the amount of stealing for drugs.

3. In what ways do you feel your law enforcement experience

makes you the best qualified candidate for sheriff?

Brown: With a combination of civilian and military law enforcement, I am the most qualified man to serve as your sheriff. My experience in other agencies outside of Brunswick County has given me a broader perspective of law enforcement to better serve the citizens of Brunswick County.

Hewett: (1) I know the citizens of Brunswick County on a personal basis. I am no stranger. (2) I have more than 11 years of full-time experience in all areas of law enforcement. No on-the-job training required. (3) I have earned a college degree in criminal justice. I hold the Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate (the highest level awarded in North Carolina) and have taught more than 1,000 hours as a law enforcement instructor. (4) I have a sincere desire to make Brunswick County better.



Paid for by Glenda Browning

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NC SUPREME COURT

Paid Sarah Parker for Supreme Court Committee

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McCrodden

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The Honorable Gerald Arnold
Chief Judge, N.C. Court of Appeals



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- Private Law Practice
- Prosecutor
- Administrative Law Judge - N.C. Industrial Commission
- Senior Staff Attorney - N.C. Court of Appeals
- J.D. with Honors - UNC School of Law

Paid for by Stephen B. Yount, Chairman of the Committee to Re-Elect Judge McCrodden

VOTE FOR EXPERIENCE