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Maybe Next Year, Santa

Every child must reject Santa Claus at least once, and that rejection came Tuesday night for this Southport young man. Meeting of St. Nick apparently was more than the youngster could face.

According To Southport Mayor

Dosher Won't 'Play Dead', Renovation Group Asked

By BOBBY HILL

In an effort to keep Doshier Memorial Hospital open "regardless of new hospital construction," Southport Mayor Eugene Tomlinson is expected to ask the Board of Aldermen Thursday to appoint the beginning of a "renovation committee" for the local facility.

Tomlinson said Tuesday, "We're not going to roll over and play dead," in response to a county commissioner vote last week that Doshier be closed when the new hospital opens.

The commissioners voted to only fund the Brunswick County Memorial Hospital for an "acute-care" hospital.

Tomlinson said the growth trend in Smithville Township justifies a hospital to serve the population.

"I think the county commissioners are not looking realistically at the medical needs of the county in light of the population growth trends," he said.

Tomlinson added that it would be "totally unrealistic to give up operating medical facilities" at Southport.

A local group recently travelled to Raleigh to assure representatives of the Comprehensive Health Planning Section of the State Department of Administration that "present plans are for Doshier to remain in operation regardless of the new

hospital construction."

The group included Doshier trustee chairman W.B. McDougle, Tomlinson, Doshier administrator W.F. Cupit and Charter Medical Services representative Don Caldwell.

Tomlinson said members of "other governing bodies in the township" will be invited to join the renovation committee for Doshier.

The real question to Doshier's survival, Tomlinson admitted, will be whether or not the facility remains authorized to accept Medicare and Medicaid patients.

Approval of such "third-party medical payments" will have to come from the state Comprehensive Health Planning Section, Tomlinson said.

According to the Doshier delegation, information from state officials "indicates that Brunswick County is only authorized 60 hospital beds."

Plans are for the new county hospital to operate with 60 beds.

However, Tomlinson reported he had received no definite information prohibiting continuing "acute-care" operations at Doshier.

"Some of the lines being pursued" for Doshier's future, according to Tomlinson, include a private hospital or a Smithville Township hospital.

Net Gain Is Noted

Audit Shows Education Board In Good Condition

The Brunswick County Board of Education finished fiscal 1972-73 with a net gain of \$167,915.

"Anytime you (the board) can spend less than you figured you'd have to, the job has been accomplished from the financial aspect," auditor Francis Smith of Fred A. Turlington, Jr. and Co. of Tarboro told the board Monday. As of July 1, 1972, balance on hand was \$527,031; on June 30 this year, the balance was \$694,046.

Smith recommended that the bank account be reconciled by someone other than those who write the checks, and he also recommended that travel allowance and supplements be approved by someone other than the usual check writer.

These moves would act as a "check and balance," Turlington said.

He also stated that the present principal inventory

for "control of fixed properties" is sufficient.

Smith said the lunchrooms' financial situation is "not as bright as other funds governed by the Board of Education," and he related that the program had a \$35,000 decrease in available funds.

He said the main problem is that more than half of the lunchroom's total operating cost is spent on food. Restaurants cannot show a profit when the food cost rises above 30 percent of the total operating cost, he said.

"Management at this point is getting the maximum out of it," Turlington said of the lunch program.

He said the lunch program can only improve financially if the state increases its subsidy or the county increases the cost of meals.

On the ESEA financial picture, he said, "funds are being used according to

regulations governing the project."

Because of the amount of time needed, the board set a special meeting for Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. to review a plan for school facilities to be financed with the \$1.7 million received from the 1973 State School Bond.

Superior Court

Youth Receives 60-Year Term

Israel E. Clemmons of Southport was found guilty in Superior Court last week of assault with intent to commit rape and second degree burglary, and was sentenced to 60 years in the state penitentiary.

Clemmons was sentenced to 50 years in prison on the burglary count.

Six drunk driving cases were also decided during the term, presided over by Judge Coy Brewer.

George Henry Hill, convicted of driving under the influence and no operator's license, was charged with court costs and a \$100 fine. The state also took a nol pros on a manslaughter charge against Hill.

Graham Arliss Willetts was convicted of driving under the influence and given a four-month sentence suspended for two years. Paying a \$150 fine and court costs, Willetts was given a limited driving permit.

Marion Maurice Stanley forfeited his bond on a driving under the influence charge.

David Charles Burdette was convicted of driving under the influence and speeding 90 mph in a 45 mph

Architect Jack Croft reported that changes have been made in the floor plans for Southport Primary School, and he said the school will be placed in the middle of a 19.54 acre tract.

The plan includes parking space for 56 cars and 20

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zone, and he was given a 60-day sentence suspended for one year and charged with the cost of court and \$75.

Bobby Lee Daniels was found guilty of driving under the influence, driving while his license was revoked and reckless operation. He was given a six-month sentence suspended for three years, and the court levied a \$250 fine and court costs against him.

George Lemone Etheridge, charged with drunk driving, pleaded guilty to reckless operation. He was charged with a \$75 fine and the cost of court.

The jury did not find true bills against Donnie Johnson and Cleveland Bryant on separate charges of rape.

Woody Poindexter filed notice of appeal on his conviction of distributing a controlled substance.

Poindexter received a ten-year sentence on the charge.

Frances Hill Cagle, larceny, 12 months suspended for 3 years on the conditions that (1) \$750 be paid to the clerk's office to be disbursed to Southern Bell Telephone Company, (2) pay costs of

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Beach Postal Service Plans

Plans are underway for the U.S. Postal Service to open an expanded Long Beach Rural Branch Post Office one year from now.

According to a recent advertisement for bids for the enlarged office, the postal service will require the office to be open Monday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Services to be offered at the new facility will include lock-box service, window service, stamp supplies, money orders and service for ordinary, registered, certified, insured and C.O.D. mail.

The advertisement states that bids will be accepted until 4:30 p.m. Monday by the Postmaster at Southport.

Bid forms and further information may be obtained at the Southport Post Office.

The present post office, contracted by Dan Shannon, is located near Shannon's Texaco on Beach Drive.

Switzer Replaces Greene As Boiling Spring Mayor

Alfred J. Switzer has replaced Arthur M. Greene as mayor of Boiling Spring Lakes.

The organizational meeting held last Monday is required by state law on the first regular meeting date following the municipal elections.

Voting among themselves, the commissioners also elected Leslie P. Day as Mayor Pro Tem.

Both Switzer and Day are incumbents elected in 1971 for four-year terms.

Greene is a representative of Reeves Telecom, Corp., developer of the community.

Switzer assigned each of the commissioners to head one of the city departments, and he instructed them on the new organization.

Commissioner Altizer will head Plans and Programs

and serve as Purchasing and Contracting Officer.

John E. Handley was named head of Personnel and Financial Management.

Greene, charged as Parks and Recreation Officer, will also head the sanitation department.

Day is responsible for Public Works (streets and buildings), and Switzer named himself to oversee the police and fire department.

The mayor emphasized that each commissioner now has a specific area of responsibility.

He said this specialization will encourage each commissioner "to become better versed in his own area."

Switzer asked the officials "stick to his own area of responsibility."

To prevent "turning a deaf ear" to problems outside

their assigned responsibility, the mayor asked the commissioners to refer problems to the proper authority.

Switzer outlined a procedure for citizens to obtain information or register a complaint.

He referred all "emergency law enforcement" matters to the police department.

The city clerk was named for citizens to bring complaints or problems, and Switzer said, "the resident will be notified of the specific action that has been taken."

The city clerk may have to contact the responsible commissioner on some problems, he said.

On a list of matters for his administration to resolve, Switzer called for improved streets and roads, creation of a planning and zoning board and a water and sewer system.

He also cited the need for a building inspection department and building and construction ordinances.

Also on the list of programs, Switzer included the "need to develop and provide funding" for recreational facilities.

Finally, he called for a public relations program to inform citizens of city functions and problems.

City Clean-Up Effort Started

Southport city crews are now engaged in a citywide clean-up effort, and Mayor Eugene Tomlinson urged "everyone to do his part" to aid the project.

"City crews cannot do it all, nor should they be expected to," Tomlinson said.

"Each property owner should take pride in the appearance of his yard, fence, etc.," he said.

Tomlinson pointed out that "streets and rights of way have become littered to the point of being unsightly."

Trio Killed In Road Mishaps

Three persons were killed and seven injured in two automobile mishaps near Shallotte this weekend.

A 31-year-old Freeland man was killed in a one-car wreck on RP 1336 about 14 miles west of Shallotte Friday. Furman Fulton Vann died when the car he was operating ran off the road at a high rate of speed and struck a tree, a State Highway Patrol spokesman said.

Two men were killed and seven persons injured in a two-car collision about 7 p.m. Saturday, south of Shallotte on RP 1303.

Five of the seven injured

were children, and they were all reportedly in serious or critical condition.

Samuel McKinley Lance, 29, of North Myrtle Beach, S.C., was dead on arrival at New Hanover Memorial Hospital late Saturday.

Willie L. Smith, 31, of Ash, was declared dead at the site of the accident, according to Brunswick County Coroner Lowell Bennett.

Patrolman Larry Canipe said both men had to be "jacked out" of the wrecked cars, that they were pinned in the vehicles.

He said the fronts of both

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