



KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS AT LINCOLN PRIMARY SCHOOL observed the nation's 200th birthday during January. The students made candles, soap and a Bicentennial quilt. Shown above are (from left to right) Dean Jeffreys, Maureen Roberts, Mary McMillan and Gregory Bush. All classes observed the exhibits which included a kitchen, classroom and many antiques that were loaned to the students.

Kids Reenact Colonial Life

The Kindergarten of Lincoln Primary School in Leland has spent the month of January celebrating America's 200th Birthday.

The motive was to give the children a realistic look at the way things were in colonial days. The children participated in many activities. They made soap, dipped candles, made a quilt, made a replica of the flag designed by the legendary Betsy Ross, made straw brooms and corn shuck brooms, quill pens and colonial toys such as a "humdinger", corn shuck

dolls, marbles, slingshots and a flipperdinger.

The teachers, aides and children were dressed in colonial style. Hats were made for the children. The girls wore long dresses and mob caps. The boys wore white knee socks and dark pants with three-cornered hats.

Areas of interest were set up in the rooms to display items of colonial life style. A colonial style kitchen, school and store were set up. Many people contributed to the display. Teachers and other

school personnel, parents, and interested people in the community helped to make it a big success.

All children in the school made a visit to the colonial display during the day last Thursday. They were treated to a birthday cup cake. In the evening parents and adults were invited and were also treated to a slice of a big birthday cake.

Special guests included Miss Diane King, Brunswick County Bicentennial Queen, Terry Maze of Moore's Creek Battleground, who set up a

tent and was dressed as a colonial soldier, Bill Reaves of the Star-News who was the Town Crier, and Uncle Sam himself.

Mrs. Mary Gornto from Brunswick Bicentennial Committee worked with the teachers in co-ordinating this unit and helping them to locate items for the display. Mrs. Lucille Blake of Leland loaned many items such as a butter churn, a whale oil lamp, and a cradle. An authentic Spinning Wheel was loaned by Maye Spell.

Board Approves Plan For Tax Interest Rule

Guidelines releasing the interest charged taxpayers on late payment of 1975 Brunswick County taxes were approved by county commissioners during a meeting Monday.

The resolution unanimously adopted by the board acknowledged that "certain taxpayers" were unable to pay their 1975 taxes due to complications caused

by the revaluation last year and the law requires the Tax office to add an interest payment to the taxes due.

"The Brunswick County Board of Commissioners therefore deems it equitable to release the interest on taxes charged to these certain individuals who comply with requirements one through four below to include specific situations," said the

resolution.

"The Board of Commissioners through the process outlined below will afford remedy to the taxpayer by a release of the interest charged," the resolution stated.

Taxpayers who have already paid their 1975 taxes can have their interest payments refunded if they follow the same requirements provided in the resolution.

Taxpayers can pay their 1975 taxes without interest if they meet four requirements. The requirements are that:

"The taxpayer must have signed an abstract for the year 1975.

"The Brunswick County Tax Office could not, through the complications of the system, present the taxpayer with a correct tax statement within the appropriate time.

"The taxpayer made an attempt to ascertain his taxes and to pay his taxes before December 31, 1975.

"The taxpayer must show proof of number three by an acceptable method to include the following: Evidence of some correspondence indicating an attempt to ascertain and to pay the taxes. Personal recollection of members of the tax department. Affidavit executed by taxpayer that he had made an attempt, indicating dates and methods of the attempts made.

The resolution lists six areas "to indicate specific situations in which the taxpayer should be afforded relief by the release of interest". They include:

"The taxpayer appealed to the Brunswick County Board of Equalization and Review during its 1975 sessions; the Board ordered a reduction in the appraised value of the taxpayer's property, which order appears in its minutes; the value fixed by the Board was not properly entered on the official tax records through clerical error.

"The taxpayer made an informal appeal to a representative of the appraisal company employed by the county to conduct its 1975 revaluation; the appraisal company representative agreed that an error had been made in the appraisal and told the taxpayer that the value would be reduced; the reduced value agreed to by the appraisal company representative was not properly entered on the appraisal company's report to the tax supervisor, with the result that the tax supervisor approved a value higher than that which the appraisal company representative had led the taxpayer to believe would be made; furthermore, the tax supervisor did not notify the taxpayer and the appraisal company representative.

"The taxpayer appealed to the tax supervisor from the value assigned to his property by the appraisal company; the tax supervisor agreed to reduce the value and so informed the taxpayer orally; a notation of the adjusted value was made on the taxpayer's abstract or property record card, but the

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Discuss Plans To Help Speed County Complex

Preliminary planning on the Brunswick County courthouse complex is already running two weeks behind schedule, county commissioners were informed during their regular meeting at the Hood building in Southport Monday.

County Planner Johnny Sutton told commissioners that the office space needs survey will not be completed until around March 22 because of unexpected delays.

Sutton said that LBC&W, the Columbia, S.C., architectural and engineering firm in charge of the courthouse complex project, will need about 17 weeks after the completion of the office space needs survey to submit preliminary drawings.

Sutton said that office needs questionnaires have been sent to all departments in the county that plan to locate facilities in the new complex. "The survey is needed to consolidate and prevent the duplication of services at the complex to save money," the county planner explained.

Both Sutton and Louise Pryor of J.L. Minton Company, the firm hired to seek grant funds for the county, told the board that federal money may be available for the project if the county can act quickly.

They reported that Congress has approved a public works bill which President Gerald Ford is expected to veto. Officials in Washington believe, however, that Congress will override the veto and approve the bill.

Miss Pryor said the bill will provide 100-percent grant money for public works projects, but she said local governments receiving funds from the bill must be able to start construction within about 90 days to obtain the money.

Miss Pryor told the board that the county will have extra time to prepare plans because implementation of the public works funds will be delayed until Congress can override the veto.

"I think we will have the master plan for the complex ready when the money is available," Chairman Steve Varnam, Jr., told Miss Pryor. Sutton said that a large amount of federal funds from the public works bill could solve the financial problem to construct the courthouse complex "since no bonds and very little local funds will be needed."

Commissioners W.T. Russ, Jr., and Franky Thomas pointed out that the board has never given any indication that "everything has to be built at one time." They said the board has always planned phased construction unless federal funds can be obtained to build the complex at one time.

Sutton also reminded commissioners that the time has come to discuss financing with the Local Government Commission in case a bond referendum is needed.

Sutton pointed out that the re-location referendum approved by the people said that "if bonds are to be issued for the relocation, or a financing agreement entered into, the board of commissioners shall apply to the Local Government Commission no later than 10 months after the day of the referendum." The 10 months expires on May 19.

Thomas said that Harlan Boyles of the Local Government Commission told him last summer that the discussion should begin early

in case a bond referendum is needed. "We need to make them aware of our plans," he added.

Sutton said one of the problems he is having with the office space needs survey involves the Board of Education. He said the school officials want the county to commit 25 acres of the Brown-Knox site before it completes the office space needs survey.

Sutton called this "a backward approach" since he believes that the county should "at least" look at the office space needs before committing land.

County Manager Don Flowers, Jr., reported that he had received a letter from Supt. Ralph King requesting a joint meeting between the two boards to discuss the matter. The board decided to hold the joint meeting at the Board of Education office Monday night at 7 o'clock at the suggestion of Chairman Varnam.

"They (the Board of Education) are holding us up

as far as that is concerned," Russ declared.

Sutton also said the commissioners need to discuss with the Board of Education possible joint use of the school bus garage-maintenance facility. "We should at least be given the opportunity to look into it, since there is nothing in the law that says it can't be a joint facility," he pointed out.

Thomas said a joint facility was ruled out at joint meetings held this fall because of the mixing of funds since the school facility will receive federal, state and local money. Sutton said he agreed, but still believes it should be discussed with the school board.

"This survey is real important to save money," the county planner stated. "We should know our needs and their needs."

Sutton said another problem that has developed with the space needs survey concerns court related

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Consent Judgement In County Action

Brunswick County commissioners and officials have been "permanently enjoined and restrained" from spending certain amounts of public money without calling for bids, The Pilot learned this week.

Superior Court Judge Jerry Alvis issued the consent judgment and injunction in the lawsuit brought by Frank Langner against county commissioners and officials concerning the purchase of radio equipment without asking for bids.

County commissioners and officials were "permanently enjoined and restrained from making expenditures for construction or repair work requiring the estimated expenditure of public money in an amount equal to or more than \$10,000 or purchasing apparatus, supplies, materials, or equipment requiring an expenditure of public money in an amount equal to or more than \$2,500 without first having fully complied with the provisions of the law."

Judge Alvis said that any violation of the judgment and injunction will be "punishable by appropriate contempt proceedings".

The judgment also ordered county officials to cancel and rescind purchase orders to Motorola Communications Electronics, Inc., for radio equipment, to advertise for equipment and award contracts based on the bids, and to make no further attempts to purchase equipment under the contract between the Lower Cape Fear Planning Unit and Motorola.

Langner, who operates Southport Communications, Inc., filed the complaint seeking declaratory relief, an affidavit motion for a permanent injunction and a motion for preliminary injunction on September 8 and the case was heard on September 15.

The final judgment, however, was not made a part of the official records in the Brunswick County Superior Court until late December because of

reluctance of Motorola officials to sign it, reported Attorney William Shell of Murchison, Fox and Newton, who represented Langner.

"Motorola consents to this judgment only to facilitate settlement of the suit by other parties thereto, believing itself to be an innocent bystander with regard to the matters alleged," said Attorney Thomas Link, who signed the judgment for Motorola and Local Representative Richard Edwards.

"This action is not to be construed as an admission of wrongdoing or liability on the part of Motorola and its consent is given merely to compromise a doubtful and disputed claim," Link continued. "Motorola expressly denies any wrongdoing or liability in the matter."

Since the judgment was signed, the county has advertised and awarded contracts for the disputed radio equipment. Motorola was awarded the contract upon

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Storm Causes Power Break

The Brunswick County Sheriff's Department was without power for about 90 minutes during the storm Sunday night.

Sheriff Herman Strong said the dispatcher in the office had to use a walkie-talkie to contact a Sheriff's patrol car with a repeater to maintain communications during the blackout. The car was parked in front of the Sheriff's Department.

Sheriff Strong said he had been informed by County Civil Defense Director Ellis Stanley that the county has generators which go on automatically when the electric power is knocked out. But Sheriff Strong said he was told by Stanley that the generators are in crates in the Agriculture building in Supply. They have not been hooked up yet.

The sheriff says his department needs generators at the department in Southport and at the radio tower at Supply.



THE OAK ISLAND POST 10226 LADIES AUXILIARY presented a check to the Long Beach Rescue Squad, with funds being raised through a community project in which the ladies made cakes and cookies. Shown above is Mrs. Jeannie Gallup, president Ladies Auxiliary, presenting check to Walter Johnson, Chief, Long Beach Rescue Squad.

Abstracts Go Out This Week

All Brunswick County taxpayers should receive their abstracts needed to list their 1976 taxes this week, Tax Supervisor K.T. Bellamy said Tuesday.

Bellamy said his department finished mailing abstracts to all townships in the county except Smithville on Tuesday. He said Smithville abstracts, the last to be proceeded, will be mailed Wednesday and Thursday.

"We have been mailing the abstracts as fast as they are delivered to us by the County Computer Department," Bellamy said.

County Finance Director Regina McKeithan, who is in charge of the Computer Department, said Clerk Rhonda Bowling finishing running the Smithville abstracts Monday morning.

Bellamy said he recommends that taxpayers wait until they receive their abstracts before attempting to list their taxes, but he said that taxpayers who have not received their abstracts by Friday should contact his office or their township lister.

Taxpayers who did not pay taxes in Brunswick County last year will have to contact the Tax Department or their township lister since they will not receive abstracts. All owners of property, both real and personal, are required by law to list their taxes. The deadline is March 2, which is one month later than normal.

Bellamy said he did not want to give the reasons listing is late again in the county this year other than that the printer did not finish the work on time.