

Human Resources Bldg. Bids Below Estimates



School Building To Be Renovated

Remodeling Will Cost \$331,500

Bids totalling \$331,500 for renovation of one of the old Brevard Elementary School buildings to become the Transylvania County Human Resources Building were opened Thursday afternoon by the County Commissioners.

Commission Chairman Bill Ives called the bids "pleasantly surprising and \$50,000 below estimates."

It was the first time in recent years, he said, that any bids had come in below estimates.

Architect Robert L. Daniels attributed the low bids to the depressed state of the building trades. "Every contractor is looking for work," he said, "and therefore is willing to cut his profit to the bone to keep his organization and men going."

Chairman Ives added: "Although it wasn't planned this way, it appears that the renovation of this building will help in a small way to boost the sagging economy."

GENERAL

Low bidder for the general contract was Town and Country Homes Construction Co. of Hendersonville at \$198,500.

Drake's Mechanical Construction of Hendersonville was low for the plumbing at \$21,800, and also low bidder for mechanical (heating and air conditioning), at \$60,000.

A Brevard firm, Casty's Electric, bid low for the electrical contract, at \$52,000.

Contracts will be let at an early date. Work cannot begin until the building is vacated by the schools, an event which may take place early in January. Work scheduled to have been completed in October on the new elementary school off Greenville Highway is still going on.

The renovated buildings will house 14 different agencies of federal, state, and local government. Of the three elementary school buildings it is the one fronting on Gaston Street.

On the lower floor structure will be housed the Departments of Social Services, Health, and Mental Health.

On the second floor will be a large number of smaller agencies:

Military recruiters, Vocational Rehabilitation, Employment Security Commission, Agriculture Stabilization and Conservation Service, Soil Conservation Service, N. C. Forestry Service, Farmer's Home Administration, Western Carolina Community Action, Agricultural Extension Service, Home Demonstration Agent, and the Coordinated Child Care offices.

ONE-STOP SERVICE

"This arrangement," says Mr. Ives, "means that a Transylvania County citizen can get the services he needs from these agencies without having to go from one building to another. At the present time these agencies are housed in seven different buildings."

A total of 42 bids were opened as contracting firms sought jobs on various phases of the construction.



FIGURES IN BICENTENNIAL — At "Charter Oak" marker at Silvermont are, from left, Dr. John W. Eastes, chairman of the Transylvania Historical Properties Commission; Mrs. Mary Jane McCrary, noted Brevard historian; Attorney Bill White, chairman of the Bicentennial Steering Committee; and Hale Siniard, president of the Transylvania Historical Assn.

Silvermont Rites Launch Bicentennial

Amid praise for getting such an early start, Transylvania County's three historical bodies Saturday launched its Bicentennial Celebration with ceremonies at Silvermont.

Dr. Larry E. Tice, assistant director of the Division of Archives and History of the N. C. Department of Cultural Resources, congratulated a sizeable assemblage at the county's Park and Recreation Dept. center for their work already accomplished and their plans.

Dr. Tice reviewed the three phases of the Bicentennial: the nation's heritage, the celebration itself, and the future.

He recalled that at the time of the Centennial celebration in 1876, the times were quite similar to those existing now. President U.S. Grant was just out of office, leaving a mess of scandals to be cleaned up. There were marches on Washington and on Raleigh. The Reconstruction Days were existent in the south.

Dr. Tice predicted that the nation will pull through this present situation just as it did then.

Mrs. Mary Jane McCrary, Brevard historian, presented "The Charter Oak" marker already set on Silvermont grounds to the county Historical Properties Commission. Dr. John W. Eastes received the marker for the group of which he is chairman.

Hale Siniard, president of the Transylvania Historical Association, presented the Commission Historical marker to the Properties Commission.

The program was given to call attention to the Bicentennial activities which will continue through July of 1976.

Dr. Robert A. Davis, president of Brevard College, gave the invocation. Rev. Joe K. Pressley pronounced the benediction. Transylvania County Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Officers of the Historical Association who will be directing its activities throughout this period, in addition to Mr. Siniard, are

Mrs. Marian Schlunz, secretary; J. H. Tinsley, treasurer; and the Constitution and By-Laws Committee, Admiral Ligon B. Ard and Mrs. Robert Campbell.

The Transylvania County Historical Properties Commission, also to be prominent in the observance, is made up of chairman, Dr. Eastes, vice-chairman, Col. Cal Carpenter, and members Miss Jeanette Austin, Cornelius Hunt, Mrs. Morris Hawkins,

Mrs. Randall Lyday, and Miss Virginia Ward.

Primary direction of the nation's 200th birthday celebration is under the Bicentennial Steering Committee, made up of chairman, Attorney William R. White, Richard Voxo, Col. Cal Carpenter, Earle Kern, Chuck Bradley, Mrs. Selina Robinson, Mrs. Steve Kropelnicki, and Mrs. Mary Jane McCrary.

11-Year-Old Boy Hanged In Accident

An 11-year-old Brevard boy hanged himself accidentally while playing last Thursday, Sheriff's Investigator Hubert Brown reported.

Jesse Lee Morgan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Travis Morgan, had hooked two belts together over a clothes rod in a bedroom closet, Mr. Brown said.

The child apparently got a loop around his neck which cut blood off from his head; he passed out, then the belt suffocated him, the officer said.

An older sister found him in a slumped position, Mr. Brown said. "His feet were never off the floor. This was a tragic accident for this family."

Young Morgan was a student at Straus Elementary School.

Surviving are the parents; a sister, Miss Janice F. Morgan of the home; a brother, Danny E. Morgan of the home; the paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Buran Morgan of Rosman; and the maternal grandmother, Mrs. Gracie Morgan of Lake Toxaway.

Funeral services were held at 2 p.m. Saturday at Old Toxaway Baptist Church. Rev. Claude Holcombe and Rev. Bill Bruner officiated. Burial was in the church cemetery.

Frank Moody Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

W. C. Morris Is Elected By Masons

William C. Morris, retired Olin Corporation employe, was elected worshipful master of Dunn's Rock Masonic Lodge at a stated communication held in the temple last Thursday. He succeeds M. M. Feaster, Jr.

The other three principal officers elected were John C. Nicholson, senior warden; Julius L. Nicholson, junior warden; and W. Ansel Hart, re-elected treasurer.

The other officers will be appointed by the newly-elected master and installation will be held at the stated communication on Thursday, Dec. 26, at 8 p.m.

Picture Identified: Mary Page

The cute child whose picture ran on the front of The Times Thursday has been identified as Mary Elizabeth Page, daughter of Mrs. Betty Page, who now reside in Denton, Texas, and the late G.G. Page.

At the time the picture was made in 1941, Mr. Page was an engineer with the N.C. Highway Department. The Pages resided on South Caldwell in Brevard.

Mrs. Julia Westwood and C. Few Lyda were the first to call The Times and identify the picture.

It has also been learned in the meantime that the picture is the property of Austin's Art Shop in Brevard. During moving from one location to another the firm stored several art properties with The Times.

It was during a cleaning out last week at The Times that the picture was found.

Parents Learn Son To Be Home

Even though Robert Morgan isn't a United States Senator yet — he doesn't take office until January — he has with the help of Senator Sam Ervin Jr. arranged for a Brevard youth to spend Christmas at home with his parents.

SP4 Brian A. Sterk, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Sterk of Brevard, was in Korea on November 18 when he wrote Senator-Elect Morgan and told him this problem:

He had been in Korea on Christmas Day, 1973. And despite the fact that a soldier's tour of duty there generally includes only one Christmas, the Army had deferred his homecoming until December 29, 1974, which would cause him to be away from home for the second straight Christmas.

Mr. Morgan contacted Senator Ervin, telling him of the circumstances, and the senator relayed the facts to the Department of the Army.

SP4 Sterk will spend this Christmas at home.

The soldier's father, reached by telephone, expressed surprise.

"This is great news," he said. "We hadn't heard from him for about two months. The last we heard, he said it would be after Christmas when he arrived. His mother will be thrilled, and so am I."

Editorial

County Needs This Patrolman

The law, we were taught to believe while growing up, is for the protection of everyone, and if real justice is done, is applied to everyone.

It is apparent that a group of citizens in the upper end of Transylvania County have a different concept: the law should apply to everyone but them.

This is certainly what a petition demanding that Highway Patrolman Thad Elmore be fired or transferred indicates.

The Times has learned that such a petition containing more than 40 names has been sent to patrol headquarters.

His superiors are now investigating the charges contained in the petition.

Meanwhile some petitions applauding Mr. Elmore and his no-favoritism policy are now being circulated for signatures.

Patrolman Elmore says he can make no statement while under investigation.

However, some other officers say the original petition came about because the people in the upper end of the county have never had rigid law enforcement previously. Patrolman Elmore has caused some drivers of that area to have licenses suspended and even some to spend a few days in jail because of their driving habits.

The Times has admiration and respect for the way Mr. Elmore does his job, fearlessly and without favor. We want him to remain in Transylvania County.

If a few malcontents are allowed to cause the dismissal of an intelligent law enforcement man, we're in a bad way.

Let's don't let it happen.

George P. Coan Dies; Graveside Rites Set

George Pruitt Coan, 54, died in Towson, Md., Saturday morning after a long illness.

He was a native of Monroe and had resided in Maryland for some time. He attended Brevard College, Fairleigh Dickerson University and Cornell University.

He was a veteran of World War II, having served as a pilot in the U. S. Air Corps. He was active in the work of Little League Baseball, also the American Red Cross and Community Chest.

He was associated with the Amoco Oil Company for 30 years and served as office manager of the Carolinas with headquarters in Charlotte, and as administrative assistant and internal auditor in the Old Baltimore Office. He served in New York as assistant regional accounting

manager and in Baltimore as analyst, until retirement some time ago.

He is survived by the wife, Mrs. Marjorie Martin Coan of the home; two daughters, Misses Barbara and Pamela Coan of the home; one son Captain George P. Coan, Jr., of Fort Sill, Okla., the father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. George Phifer Coan of Brevard; two brothers, Gil and Roger Coan of Brevard; one sister, Mrs. Dixie Saba, and two granddaughters.

Services were held in Maryland, Monday. Graveside services will be held at Gillespie-Evergreen Cemetery Wednesday at 11 a.m. Dr. Robert G. Tuttle will officiate.

Moore Funeral Home is in charge of local arrangements.