

Kirwan Vann—One Year Later

'Just Drifting Comfortably'

By JEANETTE DAVIS
Staff Reporter

RICH SQUARE — There is no way to put monetary value on a human life but one year ago the people in the Roanoke-Chowan area were alerted to the fact that one of its young people needed help and realized money was necessary to provide that help.

After the announcement that 16-year-old Kirwan Vann of Conway was suffering from a kidney disease young people from Hertford, Northampton, Gates, Bertie, and Halifax Counties joined forces and Project Life was off and running. Funds amounting to \$26,637.26 were raised and deposited in the Bank of Northampton in Jackson to be used for Kirwan's medical expenses and comfort. A board of directors was named to manage the funds.

Until that time Kirwan and his mother were making the trip to Duke Medical Center as many as three times weekly for treatment on a Travenol RSP artificial kidney machine. Without this, the outcome would have been fatal. The Vann's had hospital insurance, but not enough to cover the

monumental expense involved.

Mrs. Vann was undergoing tests to see if one of her kidneys would be compatible to Kirwan's for a transplant. But another problem was present, Kirwan is a diabetic, making risks involved in the transplant more severe.

Now, one year later, much has happened to Kirwan Vann and Project Life.

Money wise, \$15,000 is on a certificate of deposit at Bank of Northampton \$6,902.92 is on account and \$4,734.34 has been spent to help deter Kirwan's medical expense.

Broken down in ways the funds were spent, \$302.89 went May 10 for lodging at the Hilton Inn when Kirwan and Mrs. Vann were staying in Durham for diagnostic work at Duke Medical Center.

June 1 Dr. Archie Eagles was paid \$49, kidney machine supplies amounting to \$303.60 were purchased, Carolina Surgical Supply was reimbursed \$97.85 and \$2,762.30 went to Duke Medical Center for training Mrs. Vann to operate the kidney machine.

On November 30 the bill at Duke Medical Center was paid to date, \$308.86. Dr. J. A. Fleetwood was reimbursed \$47 and Carolina Surgical Supply bill was paid amounting to \$207.55.

December 30, \$691.07 went to pay for the kidney (See DRIFTING, Page 7)

County Schools Schedule Changed

JACKSON — Superintendent of Schools for Northampton County, Roy F. Lowery, has announced the following changes in the school schedule.

The first semester will end January 23 instead of January 17 as originally scheduled. The teacher work day and student holiday is now January 24. The last day of the fifth month of the school year has been moved from February 1 to February 7.

As planned, April 26 and 27 will be used as make-up days. The Board of Education will probably decide at its next meeting concerning when to make up the other days which were lost. When this is determined, the 1972-73 Calendar of Events will be altered accordingly.

"It is my suggestion that mid-term examinations be scheduled at times that best suit your schedule during the four days beginning January 18 and ending January 23, 1973. In any event, it is my recommendation that examinations not be scheduled on days following nights when basketball games or other activities are scheduled at the school," Lowery said.

"The changes were made necessary," Lowery stated, "because of the heavy snows and icy conditions which closed all county schools for four days." He had high praise for what he termed an excellent job done during the bad weather by the principal, teachers, students and bus drivers.

Oops

RICH SQUARE — Northampton's retired Health Department Acting Director, B. R. Bullock, had his name in the Times-News approximately three times last year. On all three occasions he was identified as P. A. Bullock. Both B. R. and P. A. are from Seaboard.

This oversight was brought to our attention recently and we therefore set the record straight.

Griffin To Inauguration
 RICH SQUARE — L. B. Griffin has received an invitation to attend the inauguration of President Richard Nixon in the nation's capital on Saturday.

Griffin will leave Friday for Washington by train to attend the inaugural events.

Brothers Drown While Skating

RICH SQUARE — A double tragedy struck here this past weekend when two brothers broke through the ice while skating on the Roanoke River behind the Archie Browne farm and were drowned.

Northampton County Deputy Sheriff Grover Parker identified the boys as Curtis Lee Edmonds, 15, and Raymond Lee Edmonds, 7, sons of Roosevelt and Geneva Edmonds of rural Rich Square.

According to the deputy's report, the two boys were ice skating with a sister about dusk when they went through the ice.

The sister ran home and got an older brother, Thomas, who went to the scene on a tractor and pulled the two boys out onto the ice. He then took one boy home.

By the time he got to the house, Thomas found himself physically unable to return for the second boy as he, himself, was freezing and had lost all feeling in his extremities.

Deputy Sheriff Parker was in Woodland, when he got word of the tragedy, and he rushed to the scene. Upon his arrival he found one boy in the house and Thomas wrapped in blankets suffering from exposure.

The deputy went to the scene and brought the second boy back to the house. He called Northampton County Coroner Joe Edwards as the two youngsters were obviously dead. He also called the Rich Square Rescue Squad to assist Thomas. The squad removed Thomas to the office of Dr. John Stanley in

(See TRAGEDY, Page 9)

Project Expansion? Anybody's Guess

RICH SQUARE — A story in a Roanoke Rapids newspaper Friday telling of an expansion of the RCA-CADA project has resulted in a lot of question marks as no one, who would be affected by the alleged expansion, claims any knowledge of the matter.

Rich Square's Project Director Eugene Jones said that the first he knew of it was late Monday afternoon when one of his employees brought in a copy of the newspaper.

"If there is something in the wind it hasn't blown by here," Jones said. "Maybe someone at the Migrant and Seasonal

Farm Workers Association in Raleigh knows. You would think we would be among the first to know."

Following Jones' advice Your Home Newspaper called the association in Raleigh and talked with Thomas Ward, an assistant to the executive director, William Shipes.

Ward's story was similar to that of Jones' in that he knew of the expansion made in this release of the subject.

A final check at the local CADA headquarters in Murfreesboro executive director John Taylor, brought out a batting average to 1,000 in the fact he knows nothing of an expansion in Rich Square.

As of the last day of February that project will be out of our hands. We have had it for a while and worked it up to a very successful program. Being that we will not be handling it any longer we are not making any releases or any comments on the future plans of the project."

According to the news story full details of the expansion plans are pending termination of Radio Corporation of America's involvement with the project.

The Choanoke Area Development Association, which has been involved in recruiting low-income families for the family training project, will end its involvement February 28 as will RCA.

In the agreement between CADA, RCA and the workers association, CADA, which purchased the project last year, has leased it to the U.S. Office of Economic Opportunity, which in turn has subleased the project to the Migrant and Seasonal Farm Workers Association.

By JOSEPH COVOLO JR.
Managing Editor

AHOSKIE — Roanoke-Chowan's four representatives in the 1973 General Assembly, after their first week in Raleigh, are all in agreement that things are off to a good start and a lot may get done this session. In weekend interviews most

expressed some reservations on the above statement until after this week's State of the State speech by Governor Jim Holshouser.

"During the past week we got all of the organizing done, everybody knows what committees he is on and where they meet. This is the earliest we have ever gotten this business out of the way," said

Rep. Roberts Jernigan of Ahoskie.

This is backed up by Sen. Phil Godwin of Gatesville saying, "I believe the leadership of the assembly is determined to get things started as soon as possible and take care of past slack motion. You cannot get the assembly into gear like an automobile. Some bills are timed and will

not come up till their authors are ready. By and far the prevailing attitude is to get things going.

2d Bill On Floor
 Our legislative delegation got its marks in timeliness when Lewiston's Senator J. J. (Monk) Harrington introduced the second piece of legislation to hit the floor of the senate, a resolution with 28 signatures calling for the Roads Committee to study a reorganization of the Highway Commission at once.

"I hope to start on this item within the next two weeks," Senator Harrington said. "I am formulating plans to have

(See MOVING, Page 7)

Federal Funds To Pay County Home Project

JACKSON — Revenue Sharing Funds and financing of the \$226,000 renovation project at the County Home were the principal items taken up at the regular meeting of the Northampton County Board of Commissioners at

the court house Monday with Board Chairman Jasper Eley presiding.

County Accountant Sidney T. Ellen reported that the second payment of Federal Revenue Sharing funds for 1972 had been received and amounted to \$215,905. He stated this brought the total for 1972 up to \$439,465.

Ellen said that the first payment of \$213,560 had been placed in six month savings certificates and could not be used for six months. The second payment of \$215,905, however, had been placed in a special trust fund and was available for immediate use.

He recommended that Federal Revenue Sharing funds be used to renovate the County Home, as it was known that this project would be a lawful use of the funds.

After some discussion, Commissioner John H. Liverman made a motion that the cost of renovating the County Home which is scheduled to start today be paid entirely out of Federal Revenue Sharing funds, and current county budget for that purpose, be diverted to other uses as the need arises. Commissioner John Faison seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Ellen also stated he had a request from the contractor that workers brought in for the purpose of renovating the home be allowed to live in the second floor apartment of the home during the renovation. It appeared to be the consensus of opinion of the

commissioners that this request be granted.

The county accountant also informed the board he had a request from the Farm Bureau that the commissioners go on record as backing the bureau's attempts to get legislation through the General Assembly that would allow farm land outside of towns to be assessed on the basis of the use of the land as a farm and not on

(See HOME, Page 9)

85 Per Cent 1972 Taxes Collected

JACKSON — \$993,985.01 of the total levy of \$1,174,601.11 in 1972 taxes had been collected by January 1, according to Mrs. Elizabeth Hughes of the County Tax Collector's Office.

This means that \$4,634 of the total levy has not been collected when the new year started. This amount is being reduced as taxes come in to the tax collectors office daily.

Mrs. Hughes stated that collection this past year is considerably better than the previous year. She also reported that over 99 per cent of taxes due for prior years has now been collected.

Officers Named By CADA

MURFREESBORO — At the annual meeting of the Choanoke Area Development Association (CADA) Tuesday evening, Dr. John Stanley of Woodland was reelected president for a second term.

Weldon's Mrs. Doris H. Cochran was elected first vice president; Murfreesboro's Charles L. Paul, second vice president; and M. W. Coleman of Windsor secretary-treasurer. His second term.

Elected to the executive committee were Ernest Hardy and Mrs. Hazel Tayloe of Bertie County, James Wright, Leroy Douglas, and Charles Paul of Hertford; Dr. Stanley, James Wesley, and the Rev. Joe D. McLean of Northampton; and Edward Garrison and Herman Wood of

are Thomas Speight, Windsor; Edward Garrison, Halifax; Sam W. Oakley, Weldon; Mrs. Cochran (returning); Edward Jones, Enfield; Joseph Day, Scotland Neck; Richard Baker, Harrellsville; Richard E. Gadsden, Winton; Johnnie Reid, Murfreesboro; Mrs. Gloria Simons, Ahoskie; Mrs. Julian W. Porter, Severn; James Wesley, Jackson; C. B. Lawrence, Windsor; and Robert B. Faucette Jr., Roanoke Rapids.

\$273,793 Received In Revenue Sharing

JACKSON — Revenue sharing checks received last week in Northampton County amounted to \$273,793 or four per cent less than the checks received December 11.

According to a spokesman in the office of Congressman L. H. Fountain, one per cent of the totals were held out from the first checks in what the government called "capital holdback" or adjustment

fund. The government found, however, that the one per cent was not enough to handle the adjustments, so five per cent was withheld on the second check or four more per cent than in December.

Northampton County government received \$215,905 in revenue sharing funds of the total county figure of \$273,793.

Rich Square was the largest recipient with \$15,275 and Lasker received its first payment of \$325. Lasker was not included in the first handout because it was late filing for the funds.

Other Northampton allocations included Conway, \$8,525; Gaston, \$8,421; Seaboard, \$8,121; Woodland, \$7,890; Jackson, \$6,323; Severn, \$4,372; and Garysburg, \$636.

Gillam Had Desire To Serve

Highway Commission Term Reviewed

By LAURA HARRELL

WINDSOR — It was a desire to serve and help people that caused Carroll H. Gillam of Windsor to be interested in accepting appointment as a highway commissioner and now that his term has ended — six months sooner than it was scheduled to at the request of new Republican Jim Holshouser — he looks back on the past three and one-half years with the thought that, "It was a real pleasure to help the people of this district and if at any time in the future, I can help in any way, I will be glad to do so."

The second thing that has Gillam's attention is the need for a larger allocation for secondary roads. "With the allocation we have, there is no way of maintaining the roads we have. All the roads built in Governor Scott's father's administration need to be widened and realigned and those roads alone would take more than the secondary allocation each county is getting without considering any new paving," he reasons.

A concern which Gillam expressed at the beginning of his term was about maintenance. It took a lot of

convincing but he is responsible for the idea of locating the state's first silo for the storage of asphalt. He said these are used in Virginia and have proven to be a great help in cutting down on the waste of time, labor and equipment in waiting for asphalt on maintenance jobs.

The state's first silo is located in Washington County and Gillam expects it to be a big factor in saving time and making more efficient the operation of the maintenance crew in this area. He says he plans to watch in the future to see what contributions it is making.

Did Not Resign
 While several of the members of the Highway Commission resigned at the last meeting of the group, January 4, before Governor Holshouser was inaugurated, Gillam was one of those who did not submit his resignation at that time.

He said he did not resign

then "because I felt if I could be of any service to the new administration in the transition period, I would be happy to give that service."

He received a letter from the new governor on January 6 asking for his resignation in order for Gov. Holshouser to appoint his own team.

The Windsor man represented the counties of Bertie, Hertford, Martin, Northampton, Tyrrell and Washington. His only other venture into public life was also by appointment having served two terms on the North Carolina Seashore Commission.

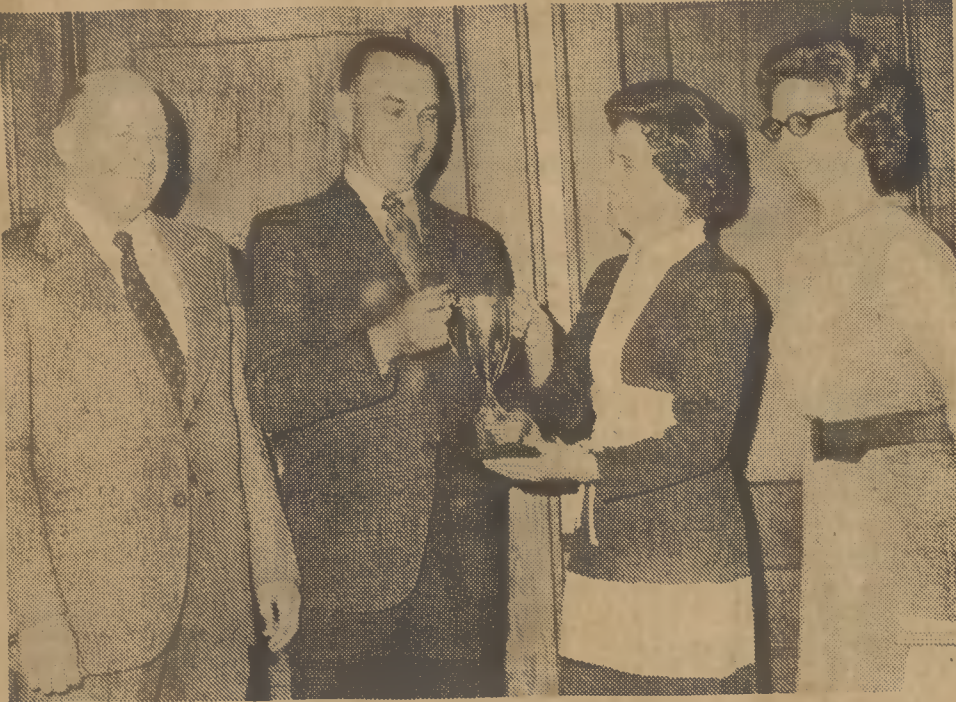
Gillam says he adopted the philosophy that he wanted to help make improvements wherever he could and if anybody had a problem, he was willing to see if a solution could be worked out. He recalls many problems were solved but many were not.

He thinks a proposal to abolish the Highway

Commission would be a mistake because he feels the various commissioners serve (See GILLAM, Page 7)



Carroll H. Gillam



RECEIVING THE AWARD OF POSTMASTER OF THE YEAR at the annual dinner meeting of the Northampton County Chapter of the National Association of Postmasters Tuesday night is Edward Lee Womble (second left), postmaster at Rich Square. Making the presentation is Mrs. Leslie White, wife of last year's winner of the award. Leslie White, postmaster at Woodland, was attending school in Oklahoma. Observing are Bruce Conyers, manager of the new sectional center in Rocky Mount (left), and Chapter Chairwoman Sarah V. Colston, postmaster at Garysburg.