

Co. Mulls Finances Of Ambulance Service

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Dodge after describing the general condition of the building, said he and Fore plan to give their final presentation to the commissioners in February.

Among the needs of the Courthouse Fore mentioned are relining the gutter and repairing the roof to eliminate leaking; and repairing insulation around windows, to reduce energy losses. In reference to the latter, Fore said weatherstripping and interior glazing would cut the losses but that the presence of airconditioners at 15 of the Courthouse's 67 windows

aside from those of the courthouse would reduce the effectiveness of weatherstripping and glazing greatly.

Tax bill

The commissioners adopted a motion directing Tax Supervisor Larry Holt to review five parcels of property in the Antioch and Blue Springs area.

The directive was the response to the questioning by John H. McPhaul, Jr., of Fayetteville regarding the 30 percent increase in the taxes on the parcels owned by

McPhaul's mother. McPhaul said the taxable value of 50 acres in two parcels of the property was raised to \$900 per acre on good, open farm land, whereas in neighboring counties property evaluation was \$500-plus at the most in Cumberland and \$600 in Robeson.

Balfour explained the reevaluation is required every eight years by state law, and the county has no say in the matter. He also said that between reevaluations the taxes on personal property (vehicles, home appliances, farm machinery) bear the heavier tax load while the real

estate has a relatively smaller share to pay, and that the eight-year reevaluation, resulting in higher taxable values, tends to restore the balance between real and personal property taxation.

McPhaul said the land, totaling 561 acres, according to his written statement, was his mother's sole source of income, which comes from rentals.

He also attacked the increasing of taxation by governments, saying that the salaried employee must work five months to pay his/her

federal, state and county taxes.

Balfour expressed agreement with him and asked him to write to this district's representatives and senators in the State General Assembly what he just said to the commissioners.

Appointments

The commissioners reappointed Mike Wood and Simon Adams to the County Board of Health to three year terms.

They also reappointed Alfred K. Leach a member and chairman of

the County Alcoholic Beverages Control Board, and Lonnie Locklear, Henry Dial and John Henry McNeill to new two-year terms on the South Antioch Fire Protection District commission.

Balfour explained in reference to the ABC Board that the county commissioners by a General Assembly act now are solely responsible for appointing members, including who shall be chairman. Formerly, the members were appointed jointly by the commissioners, and the County Board of Education and of Health.

Hunt Back Hosp., Will Pay Checks

Hoke County Commissioner James Albert Hunt said last week he planned to pay before his January 20 trial date the \$13,543 in worthless checks he has been charged with writing.

"You're not doing any business if you don't bounce a few checks," Hunt said adding that he had been singled out because of his public position.

Hunt also said he did not plan to resign from his county office.

Hunt returned to Moore Memorial Hospital Thursday night for "observation and treatment," a hospital spokesman, who declined to define the nature of Hunt's ailment said the commissioner had been in the hospital before Christmas for a "hernia operation."

Before going to the hospital again, Hunt said that as long as he keeps buying automobiles, trucks and airplanes from local businesses, then those businesses are not going to worry too much about "a few" bad checks.

Two criminal summons and a warrant carrying the check charges were served on Hunt December 24.

Hunt is accused of writing a worthless check for \$10,250 to Samuel A. Cox of Lumberton Datsun in payment for used cars for Hunt's truck and rental businesses in South Hoke; another for \$2,978 to Charley E. Bennett of Lumberton Machine and Welding Co. for work on a dump truck-trailer; and \$312 to Fred Baker of Lumber Bridge.

Hunt said he could have paid off the checks the day the papers were served on him "but I knew it wouldn't do any good." "It was already too late, so I spent the money on Christmas presents" he said in a Fayetteville Times interview.

Hunt also told *The News-Journal* he was test flying a new airplane he was buying on December 27 when the plane struck an electrical line near the landing field, but was landed without injury to Hunt or his copilot. Hunt said the accident damaged the craft's tail section, doing over \$3,000 damage.

Cox said bad checks written him by Hunt totaled about \$17,000 but he had a criminal summons put out on just the \$10,250 check. He added that Hunt's wife has returned several of the cars Hunt bought, but that he is claiming the money just the same because Hunt had kept the cars two months.

Hunt said that 90% of the people write bad checks, but that he had been singled out because of his position. He added that he was going to pay them off in a couple of weeks. "That's no problem," he added.

Hunt was returned to his third four-term as commissioner in the November general election after winning renomination in the July 27 Democratic runoff primary.

He was reelected vice chairman of the Board of County Commissioners by his fellow members at the December 6 meeting when the board was reorganized for the new term.

PBS Dumped

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the county's vocational education program is scheduled to be aired on North Carolina's public television in February, and Gillis said he was concerned that show could not be seen locally.

"I was glad to hear that it was going to be straightened out," Gillis said.

In the near future, the cable company hopes to increase its number of channels by adding new equipment, Daniels said.

When the equipment is added, then those channels, like the Charlotte station and CBN will be restored, Daniels said.

"We're looking at long term forecasts," Daniels said.



HOMES WANTED -- These are among the seven puppies, about 3 months old, and their roommate, a shaggy 7-month-old at the Hoke County Dog Pound available for adoption. The puppies, shorthaired, mixed breeds, include males and females. The shaggy blur in the picture is the roommate, a female, who turned to see what was behind her, just as the picture was taken. Anyone interested in adopting one -- or more -- should call the Raeford Police Department.

Controversial Prisoner Serving At McCain

by Bill Lindau

A 66-year-old man, who was convicted of the 1981 Henderson County slaying of a 16-year-old girl and who became the subject of a political controversy last summer when he was to be exchanged for a Florida prisoner, is serving at the state Correctional Unit at McCain.

Wilton Clary is serving at McCain after being transferred quietly from the Central Prison in Raleigh in early December for medical reasons.

Clary, a retired professional singer, was sentenced April 27, 1981, in Henderson County Superior Court at Hendersonville to life after he pleaded guilty to first degree murder, according to court records.

Clary was accused of shooting 16-year-old Pamela Durham, who was taking private voice lessons from Clary at his Hendersonville studio.

Miss Durham's body was found in woods in a residential area of Flat Rock, near Hendersonville. She had been killed February 7, investigators reported.

Stuart Shadbolt, public relations officer for the State Department of Corrections, told *The News-Journal* Monday that Clary had been sent to Central Prison in Raleigh, the state's only maximum-custody unit, because he has a "coronary condition" and Central has a hospital for prisoners. He added Clary also had been sent to the Raleigh unit for additional processing.

Clary was transferred to the medium-custody McCain unit because he didn't need the in-patient care which Central provided and he was not ready for special out-patient status in a medium-custody unit. The McCain unit has the facility required for a medium-custody prisoner who would require out-patient treatment.

Dr. Ramnik Zota of Raeford is the regular physician for the McCain unit.

The treatment facility also has a resident staff. Clary arrived at McCain December 3, and Correctional Officer Susan Walters said he was "doing fine" when asked about his health.

Shadbolt explained that the custody status given a prisoner, ranging from maximum to "close" to medium to minimum depends on the crime he has been sentenced for, his personality profile, and history of conduct in prison.

He said there had been "no problem" with Clary since he started his sentence.

Clary was the subject of protests from Henderson County at least twice since he started serving his term, according to records.

Last year, the state agreed to send him to a Florida prison so he could be closer to his relatives. Florida officials, in turn, were to transfer another convicted murderer to North Carolina in ex-

change. Henderson people, however, protested, saying the move had a political motive, and Gov. Jim Hunt, following an investigation, canceled the transfer on grounds it violated Correction Department Rules.

The protesters had called the Florida plan a "cushy" deal for Clary and expressed fear it would mean Clary would be released after a year or so.

Before then, another protest blocked Clary's proposed transfer from the Caledonia to the Salisbury unit, which is considered a first-class medium-security unit.

The father of Clary's victim, and the state and private prosecutors who served at Clary's trial were among the protesters.

No objection to his transfer to McCain has been reported, however.

Before opening his studio in Hendersonville, Clary sang in night clubs in the Miami, Florida and other areas of the United States and also performed as a singing cowboy with a road company of the popular musical Broadway stage play, "Oklahoma!", at one time in his career.

No motive for the killing of Miss Durham was presented at Clary's trial. The evidence, since Clary had pleaded guilty, was limited to the introduction of the statement Clary had given to a State Bureau of Investigation agent following the arrest.

Richard Amico, 38, of Hendersonville, was sentenced in the case to three to five years after pleading guilty to being an accessory after the fact of Miss Durham's murder.

Amico was charged for failing to tell law enforcement officers of the killing. Amico reportedly was riding with Clary and the girl but on Clary's direction, laid down in the back seat hidden from the girl on the ride to the place where the girl would be killed. Amico reportedly had been doing errands for the Henderson County Humane Society when Clary gave him a ride before Miss Durham joined them.

1982 Rainfall Back To Normal

The past year brought Raeford its first normal annual rainfall in 4½ years, reports Robert Gatlin, Raeford observer for the National Weather Service.

Gatlin's records show 52.66 inches fell on the city in 1982. He said the normal rainfall per year is about 52 inches, an average of an inch a week.

The last month of 1982 brought 5.05 inches of rain, the second highest for a December in four years. The highest was the 5.3 inches recorded in December 1981.

The other Decembers brought the following totals: 2.25 in 1980, and 1.67 in 1979.

Around Town

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could make some of us men want to watch soap operas, before it is over for the season. The college all-star game will now be on for a week or so.

Also the professional football leagues are now going into the playoffs to get two teams to play in the Super Bowl. This game will be played the last of January so every weekend in between, playoff games will be played.

So get your supply of eats and drinks ready for many more football games.

I pulled for Georgia in the Sugar Bowl and wanted them to finish

the season undefeated and be number one in the nation. Then at the same time it is hard to deny Joe Paterno, Penn State Coach, the number one ranking after all the fine football teams that he has produced. It was like Dean Smith getting to win the National Championship in basketball last spring. So it didn't hurt as bad to lose with the Bulldogs.

The strike by the football players this year has caused more no-shows at games than most folks ever thought would occur. It seems that 27.3% of the seats in stadiums are empty this year, compared to 6.2% last year. Many games on TV

are now being blacked out because of the no-shows.

This of course means fewer people are looking at the commercials and this means loss of revenue for the sponsors. This could mean that sponsors will not want to pay as much for the football TV time. This all adds up to less money for the owners.

What the end result will be will show when the new season starts and season tickets are offered for the season. It could mean bad news for the players, as well as the owners. It is hard to win!

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CHUCK ROAST
1.59 lb.

LUNDBY SLAB BACON
\$1.29

BONELESS CHUCK STEAK
lb. \$1.69

CUBED STEAK
lb. \$2.29

F.M.A. FRESH MILK
Gal. \$1.99

F.M.A. BREAD
2 24 oz. Loaves 89¢

FRESH FRYER PARTS
DRUMSTICKS lb. 73¢
THIGHS lb. 63¢
WHOLE FRYER LEGS lb. 69¢

GRADE A - LARGE EGGS
69¢ Doz.

DUKES MAYONNAISE
Qt. 99¢

DOVE LIQUID DETERGENT
22 oz. 89¢

STOKELY CUT GREEN BEANS
303 Can 3/\$1.00

PRODUCE

FRESH CRISP LETTUCE HEAD 49¢
LOCAL SWEET POTATOES BUSHEL \$4.99
RED DELICIOUS APPLES 3 LB. BAG 79¢

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