

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

DUPLIN COUNTY SENTINEL

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Commissioners Meet

Tax Revenue Increase For Duplin

An increase of \$20,000,000 in Duplin County's assessed valuation for the current tax year was reported to the County Board of Commissioners Monday by Frank Moore, Tax Supervisor. He said this is a 6.81 percent increase. It would bring an additional \$200,000 in tax revenue to the county on the basis of the present 99 cents per \$100 tax levy.

County Commissioner Chairman J. W. Hoffer later said he believes the county will be able to hold its tax levy to that level for the 1977-78 fiscal year. Moore said the biggest single increase came in Kenansville Township with a \$500,000 addition from building and equipment at Outfitter East. Otherwise, the increase came mostly from the additional value of new homes in the county.

Moore said the county's present assessed valuation is \$316,797,000 plus an additional \$20 million from public utilities and services.

The Board tabled the report of

its computer study committee until the next meeting. Gerald Quinn of Warsaw, chairman, recommended five steps: 1. Computerizing financial records; 2. Hiring a data processing manager and a key operator by July 1; 3. Leasing or buying three input stations and one printer to go on the line with Dixie Data Processing Co.; 4. Having Dixie Data and the county staff program the payroll, budgetary records, and program tax billings and collections; and 5. Placing on order an IBM 34 to go on the line July 1, 1979, and have programs ready at that time to switch from Dixie Data to the county's leased unit.

Cost for salaries, professional services and repairs and supplies for 1977-78 would be \$72,496. For 1978-79, the costs would be \$40,358, according to the report.

The Board approved renting space on the county central communications systems transmitting tower to Motorola of Wilmington at \$35 a month for

36 months to place a repeater to widen its communication service to customers of the area.

Janet Crenshaw of Warsaw was appointed to the family planning council.

J. W. Hoffer was reappointed to the James Sprunt Institute Board of Trustees.

Warren Dail, electrical inspector, asked for and was granted an increase in fees for electrical permits of \$4 for all but utility poles, which went up \$2. The final budget hearing was opened at 10 a.m. for the regular budget and revenue sharing. No citizens appeared to comment on the proposed budgets and there were no written comments on the proposed budgets. The hearing was adjourned.

The Board discussed a 50/50 matching grant in the amount of \$30,000, the purpose of which would be to plan a Cultural Resource Center. The Center would house the Arts Council, Liberty Arts, Library and Recreation Department. If funds

become available, it will include all preliminary planning but will not pay for any construction. The Board authorized Russell Tucker to proceed with the application.

Leland Grady, Tax Collector, presented his tax collections for the month of May and year-to-date. For May, the collections amounted to \$115,819.56 and year-to-date \$3,178,436.40.

The Board was advised that contracts have been received on the Rose Hill and Faison Neighborhood Multi-purpose Service Centers.

The Commissioners received notice of appeal to the Full Commission of the Lawrence Newbern case.

Melvin Pope, Mayor of Magnolia, met with the Board and presented a resolution on the "201 Facilities Plan" for Magnolia. The Board approved the plan for Magnolia.

Richard Woodcock, Planner, and Mrs. Winifred Wells, the County Attorney, discussed with the Board their meeting

with the citizens of Albertson regarding the neighborhood multi-purpose center for that area. Mrs. Wells explained she discussed with the group its responsibility for the maintenance and insurance on the building if and when built. The Board was in agreement that before the county will sign the contract, the Ruritan Club will sign the contract; the Ruritan Club will maintain the building for the life of the building (10 years); the Ruritan Club will be

responsible for the insurance. Woodcock was directed to meet again with the Ruritan Club in Albertson and explain the expectations of the Board.

The Commissioners discussed recent passage of the Local Public Works bill and the proposed new jail. A motion was made by Albertson to authorize Tom Pegram, Architect, to advertise for bids on the proposed new jail. Four voted for and one abstained (Fussell).

Son Of A Gun

By Joe Lanter

At this week's meeting of the Duplin County Board of Commissioners, I noticed Chairman Hoffer seemed to look different... I wasn't quite sure what it was... Then I finally realized he was seated lower than usual... Hoffer is the shortest of the Commissioners when standing, but he was seated so low his chin was barely even with the tabletop... But I dismissed it though I noticed Hoffer rocking back and forth in his chair and bouncing up and down as well... During a break in the meeting, Hoffer said "Something is wrong with my chair"... But the meeting continued and every once-in-a-while he would begin his movements... again looking down at the chair in a curious sort of way... like asking, what is wrong with this thing... About meeting's end, I realized what had happened. Arliss Albertson had exchanged chairs with Hoffer, without his knowing... For the past several months, Arliss has at least twice each meeting, laid the chair over and tried to adjust it or get it to do something that it was not doing... And today Arliss was sitting back with no complaints... But Hoffer was still jiggling around in the chair... By the way, this chair is a bad luck chair... Jiggs Fussell had it first and something happened to his leg and the chair got switched over to Arliss... And Monday I noticed Arliss was walking around holding his back... And Hoffer was trying to decide why his chair was popping and snapping... Winnie Wells noticed also that Arliss had made the chair switch... Finally we could hold back the laughter no longer... With Mrs. Wells and I laughing apparently at nothing... The rest of the Commissioners began looking our way with a questioning eye... everyone but Arliss, who was smiling, but trying not to show it... and Hoffer who was still jumping up and down in his chair saying something is wrong with my chair... After Mrs. Wells and I told what we were amused at, and Arliss got up to

stretch his legs, Hoffer traded chairs with Arliss... You know how funny things get sometimes when you are supposed to be quiet? Well this was the case, and after I began laughing, I then became embarrassed... but couldn't stop... with no disrespect, but purely with an amusing eye, Hoffer reminded me of a young boy trying to make his chair sit better... Fact of the matter is, Hoffer is about twice my age, and has about twice as much energy... I left my car to be worked on at a place last week... They said they would call when they were finished... Late in the day I asked Donna (my wife) if they had called and said my car was ready, and she said "No... I haven't heard from them... Maybe they have run into some complications... But fact of the matter was, she was right... The bill had been multiplied about three times what I thought it would be... Rachel Potter tells me she and some of her relatives went on vacation last year, and while in Washington got the urge to visit the restroom... She and another female, I forget just who... went into the public restroom, and after waiting in two managed to get adjoining stalls, compartments, or what-have-you... Cost a dime to get in anyway... While seated, she looked to her right and saw what she thought was a mirror, and, as most people do, touched it... Just as her hand reached the mirror, she realized it was not her reflection she was seeing... She didn't have on a pink sweater... What it was, was a hole in the wall... And she touched her friend who immediately screamed so loudly, according to Rachel, it could be heard back in Duplin County. When the two got their composure back and walked out into what had been a crowded restroom when they first entered, they found themselves all alone... That Rebel yell had emptied the restroom... Son-of-a-gun...

Two Arrested And Charged With Hog Theft

Arrest of two men on charges of larceny in connection with a hog theft last week was announced over the weekend by the Duplin County Sheriff's Department.

James Earl Harper, 28, of Route 2, Faison, and Ronald Beaton of Route 1, Faison, were charged and released under \$500 bond each. Eleven hogs were stolen from P. D. Pryor's farm on N.C. 11 last week. Eight of them were recovered the same day.

Other reports from the Sheriff's Department included:

A CB radio, ball glove and bat were taken from the truck of Furney Jarman of Route 2, Pink Hill. The loss was valued at \$162. Henry Shields is the investigating officer.

Copper tubing worth \$34.84 was taken from the tobacco barn of John Stanley Bostic on NC 50 near Dobson's Chapel.

Linda Jones Sutton of Route 1, Kenansville, reported the loss of a 1971 and a 1972 motorcycle, both valued at \$650.

Three dollars worth of Nabs and \$10 in change were taken from a machine located at a self-service gas station on NC 41 east of Wallace. The incident was reported by Harvey Carter of Route 3, Wallace.

Billy Herring of Route 2, Mount Olive, reported the vandalism of a plastic sign when a brick was thrown doing \$400 in damage. Dalton Jones investigated. A juvenile was apprehended and restitution is expected.

Vernon Sholar of Route 2, Wallace reported his Four Corner Variety Store in Pin Hook was entered and \$25 in change and \$12.40 in cigarettes were stolen.

Emma Miller of Route 1, Pink Hill, reported aluminum roofing was stolen from her chicken house three and one-half miles north of Potters Hill.

Lucille Carter reported \$12 worth of food was taken from her home.

Mildred Becton reported a larceny at the residence of Maggie Williams of New Jersey, located on RPR 1114, three miles west of Magnolia, when someone took 8 rolls of roofing felt and 13 squares of shingles. The missing items were valued at \$285. Kenneth Savage investigated.

Edward Warren Kornegay of Route 1, Magnolia, reported someone entered his residence 1 1/2 miles south of Kenansville on NC 11 and stole a Zenith stereo, a GE microwave oven, an Electrolux sweeper, a Polaroid camera and several jewelry items, with a total value of \$1,402. Kenneth Savage is the investigating officer.

The Ford truck reported stolen from Smith Bros. of Magnolia, was located by the Wilmington Police on Adams Street there.

The Sheriff's report for May, indicated stolen property amounted to \$47,824.83. This included \$4,425.98 in burglaries, \$4,798.85 in larcenies, \$38,600 in motor vehicle thefts. Recovered, \$41,279.

Warrants issued included 1 burglary, 2 larcenies, 14 assaults, 3 manufacture and sale of controlled substance, 2 possession of marijuana, 2 offenses against family and children, 1 disorderly conduct and 44 others (bad checks, public drunk, etc.)

Juvenile action included two breaking and entering, one larceny and three forgery and uttering.

JK 1977 Graduates To Receive \$61,571 In Scholarship Aid

Twenty-seven 1977 James Kenan High School graduates are to receive \$61,571 in scholarships, grants and financial aid, it was announced during commencement exercises held last Friday.

Stanley Broadie was the William Rand Kenan Athletic award winner, which consists of a \$100 scholarship, a trophy and a name plaque to be placed on the permanent trophy at James Kenan High School. Broadie

\$300 Rotary Scholarship presented by H. C. Allen, representing the Warsaw-Kenansville Rotary Club.

Carlton - Fashion Merchandise Institute, \$1,400; Catharine Phillips, Faculty Scholarship, Mount Olive College, \$500; Shells Williams, Academic, Winston-Salem State, \$2,249; Alan Ezzell, Academic, Appalachian State, \$1,812; Wanda Broadie - Academic, N. C. Central, \$1,862; Cora Brewington, Socialites Club Scholarship, James Sprunt, \$100; Jimmy Hooks - Academic, N. C. Central, \$1,862; Elizabeth Killelte - Faculty Scholarship, Mount Olive College, \$500; Phylathea Dixon - Academic, N. C. Central, \$1,862; Robert Moore - Modern Matron Scholarship, \$150, and Academic, N. C. State; Sharon Swain - 4-H Scholarship, Meredith College, \$200; James Mercer Quinn - Academic, Campbell College, \$2,000; Oshenia Lowe - Academic, N. C. Central, \$1,962; Teresa Williams - Golden Star, Mount Olive College, \$1,000; Judsenia Middleton - Academic, N. C. Central, \$1,862; Sonya Powell - Golden Star, Mount Olive College, \$1,000; Gwendolyn Frederick - Academic, Fayetteville State, \$1,078; Deborah Tuten - Academic, Shaw University, \$1,800; Jerry Hall - Academic, N. C. Central, \$1,062; Denise Miller - Academic, Elizabeth City State, \$1,062; and Delores Jones - Academic - Fayetteville State, \$1,078.

Appointed Manager Of Warsaw Office

Colleen Martin has been appointed acting manager of the Warsaw office of East Federal Savings and Loan Association. Presently assistant manager, she has been with the association since October 1, 1962, and is a resident of Warsaw. She and her husband, W.C., reside at 102 Walnut Street. They have two daughters, Karen Colleen and Susan Ann.

John W. Blake, former manager, has resigned, effective July 31st, to pursue a private business interest in Greenville. He anticipates relocating in that area in the very near future.



RANDY TAYLOR
Kenan Scholarship

Highlighting the scholarship awarding was the presentation of the Kenan Scholarship of \$1,200 per year for four years to Randy Taylor, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Taylor of Warsaw. Randy plans to attend the University of N.C. at Chapel Hill.

STANLEY BROADIE
William Rand Kenan Athletic Scholarship

also received a full athletic scholarship to Duke University of \$24,000. Stanley is the son of Mrs. Juanita Broadie of Kenansville.

Nelson Carlton, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Carlton of Warsaw, was the recipient of a

NELSON CARLTON, JR.
Rotary Scholarship

Other scholarships, grants and financial aid earned by JK seniors include the following: Rose Marie Rouse - Presidential Scholarship, Mount Olive College, \$1,000, and Lois Phillips Boyette Memorial Scholarship, \$500; David Carlton - NC Merit Tuition, UNC-CH, \$1,200 and Century III Leadership Scholarship, \$1,000; Teresa

Personnel System Of Duplin County Receives National Recognition

J. W. Hoffer, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, was very pleased to announce that Duplin County has received national recognition as being a model for establishing a small county personnel system. He was notified by Bernard E. Hillenbrand on Monday, June 6, that Duplin County is the recipient of New County, USA Achievement Award from the National Association of Counties for this outstanding program.

It was early in 1976 that Duplin County began to feel the need for a personnel program by which to govern some 600 employees. On April 5, 1976, the Commissioners adopted a Personnel Ordinance which was developed with the help of the State Personnel Advisory Service. The purpose of the ordinance was to establish a personnel system which would

vide a means to recruit, select, develop and maintain an effective and responsible work force for the county. The Commissioners felt this would be a beginning of setting up a much needed personnel program for the county. This program would demonstrate the value of having personnel decision-making closer to the local governmental unit. Also, it could be a program to which local governmental units of comparable size would be very receptive. So, on July 1, 1976, Mary Stevens was appointed to the part-time position of Personnel Director to implement the program.

The County Board of Commissioners became aware of possible funding and financing a personnel program through their own study and aid in their own government. This could be

mental Personnel Act of 1970. Mrs. Stevens was authorized to formulate and prepare a grant application for submission to the agency. Such was done under the project title of "Small County Model for Establishing a Personnel System."

On September 22, 1976, Duplin County was notified that under the provision of the Intergovernmental Personnel

Act of 1970, they were awarded an IPA subgrant to the "Small County Model for Establishing a Personnel System," the purpose of which was to develop a county personnel system to be used as a model guide.

Hoffer said, "We are extremely proud of our personnel system, which is under the direction of Mary Stevens."

Summer School Program

The Duplin County Summer School Program for students in grades 9-12 will be held at E. E. Smith School in Kenansville beginning June 13. Students may attend either a day or night session.

The day session will be held from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m., Monday thru Friday, June 13 - July 25. The night session will be held from 6 - 9 p.m. from June 13 thru August 20. Classes will not be held on July 4th.

All students must be present for registration at the E. E. Smith School on Monday, June 13 at 8 a.m.

Application blanks may be obtained from principals or guidance counselors in the students' home school. Questions about summer school may be directed to the students' home school or to the Duplin County Board of Education.

Wilkins To Retire

R. E. Wilkins, Duplin County Agricultural Extension Agent for nearly 30 years, plans retirement June 30. The veteran agent, who began work as Extension Agent in 1948, says, "It feels like yesterday, yet it's a fact that nearly half the people in the world were born since then." He added, "Emigration, immigration, inflation, integration, Agricultural education, and the situation have all contributed to make it far different than it was three decades ago. Five barrels of corn was a good yield then, but in 1976, the highest official yield in Duplin County was 186 bushels of dry corn. The thing that captures your fancy is not the phenomenal yields of today, but the method of production. New technology in chemicals, breeding, insect and disease control, marketing and cultural practices



all add up to a completely new ballgame. America's resources that have gone into agricultural research and teaching have made this country the breadbasket of the world. During my tenure, agricultural technicians from around the globe have come to Duplin to study our methods. I know of no career that could have been more gratifying, satisfying and rewarding than working with the Agricultural Extension organization and its grass-roots approach to solving problems.

When asked what was the most exciting event of his career, he replied, "There have been many highlights, but the winning of the 'County of the Year' Award in 1957 was the greatest thrill. Out-of-county judges spent a day evaluating the agricultural projects, school and civic group activities. It was an example of what could be accomplished when there was total commitment by the people and the local leadership.

Wilkins has received many awards and citations, including the National Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents in 1975 in Milwaukee, the Distinguished Service Award from the N.C. Association of Agricultural Agents in 1975 in Charlotte, a Presidential citation from A&T State, three citations from the NAACP in New Orleans, Washington and Memphis, and also one from the Duplin County Branch.

He is married to the former Velma Satterthwaite, and they have two sons, Eric V. and Riddick E., Jr.

PRAYER BREAKFAST

There will be a Dutch Prayer Breakfast June 14 at 7 a.m. at The Country Girl Restaurant sponsored by the Kenansville Jaycees. Douglas Judge, mayor of Kenansville, will be the speaker. Everyone is cordially invited to attend the breakfast.