

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

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Jail Contracts Awarded

The Duplin County Board of Commissioners approved the bids totaling \$642,868 for the new county jail Monday. Construction work is expected to begin this month, with completion scheduled late next year.

The vote to let the contracts was split with Arliss Albertson opposing, and D.J. Fussell, William Costin and Emmett Kelly voting in favor. Chairman W. J. Hoffer does not vote except to break a tie.

General contractor is Dixie General of Wallace, with a low bid of \$333,000 plus \$10,150 for street work. This represents a unit cost of \$40.25 per square foot.

The plumbing contract went to Clinton Hardware of Clinton on a bid of \$59,139.

Heating contractor is H. and

S. Home Equipment Co. on a bid of \$35,000, which is \$4.11 per square foot of building area.

Electrical contract went to Darden Electric Co. of Goldsboro on a base bid of \$64,845 plus an \$8,000 alternate for television monitors in the jail area.

The jail equipment contract went to Willo Products Co. of Decatur, Ala., on a bid of \$118,225.

The kitchen equipment contract went to Food Service Supplies, Inc., of Columbia, S.C., on a bid of \$14,509.

The jail area, including a sallyport, will be 8,525 square feet. The enclosed area will contain 8,301 square feet, which will cost overall \$75.40 per foot.

The incarceration area of the structure will contain 4,265

square feet. The sheriff's offices and county communications center will occupy 4,036 square feet.

Revenue sharing funds will be the primary source of money for the structure plus a \$255,000 grant from the state. The vote on use of the revenue sharing money was split, with Fussell voting against, and Costin, Kelly and Albertson voting for it.

Dr. Carl Price, President of James Sprunt Institute, and Robert Lee, Business Manager, met with the Board of Commissioners to report on the cut in funds for community colleges. Dr. Price told the Board that James Sprunt has received a \$250,000 cut in budget appropriations from the State and plans are to eliminate six posi-

tions as a result of this cut, and to reorganize the staff whereby administrative personnel will be assigned to teaching. There will be several short term contracts, with the understanding that if funding is available, they will be renewed. Dr. Price stated that after these and other steps have been taken, he still anticipates being short \$40,000 to maintain the services they need to provide to the students.

A Natural Disaster Damage Assessment Report was presented to the Board. Also, a letter from James A. Graham, Commissioner, Department of Agriculture, was read to the Board. Graham assured the Commissioners that his staff is anxious to be of every assistance as Duplin seeks possible aid for the farmers. The Board agreed to send a copy of the damage assessment report to Graham and request speedy assistance.

Town Mayor Doug Judge of Kenansville, Glanton Barwick of Calypso, Alex Brown of Greenevers, Carl Pate of Beulaville, Ben Harrell of Rose Hill, Melvin Pope of Magnolia, and Town Administrator of Kenansville, met with the Board to discuss

the possibility of hiring a Grantsman to work with the county and towns in locating grant funds and preparing grant applications. Towns not represented were Warsaw, Wallace and Teachey. Doug Judge, President of the Duplin County Municipal Association, spoke for the group, stating that on July 21st, the Association met and agreed to approach the Commissioners to request a Grantsman and clerical assistance be hired with CETA funds. The budget for the operation was discussed and the towns present agreed to participate on a per capita basis to provide 50% of the funds with the county being responsible for the remainder. The Board asked the towns present to work up a proposed budget, contact the towns not represented, try and locate a qualified person for the job, and meet with the Commissioners again on August 15th at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Jim Rusher, Industrial Developer, met with the Board to report on the activities of the

Development Commission. Rusher reported that V.H.J. manufacturers of ladies' dresses and pantsuits, has begun operation in Warsaw. He discussed the possibility of other firms locating in the area. A copy of the Airport Commission minutes was presented to each Commissioner. Rusher brought to the Board's attention the amendment in the Airport Commission Bylaws to include five additional members at large (one from each Commissioner district to be appointed by the respective Commissioner.) A report on the airport was presented by Rusher, showing an average of 10-12 Corporate planes coming into the Duplin Airport each week, with eight planes being based at the airport, valued at \$550,000, which is on the tax books. Rusher stated that James Sprunt Institute is ready to start an air ground school at the airport. The Commissioners agreed to have the County Attorney, Mrs. Winnie Wells, rewrite the Airport By-Laws to include the amendment passed by the Airport Commission.

The Board was advised that Notice of Intent to create an Industrial Facilities and Pollution Control Financing Authority in Duplin County has been received by the Local Government Commission.

The Board received a letter from Norman Sandlin, Jr. regarding entrance to ramp for handicapped located at the Duplin County Health Department. Signs designating the parking area have been ordered.

Charles Yelverton met with the Board to discuss additional land sites for Beulaville Elementary School.

The Board authorized Chairman Hoffer to sign the Social Services Budget Summary agreeing the Board of County Commissioners to provide \$596,891 for the county's part of the Social Services Budget for fiscal year 1977-78.

The Board discussed a request from the County Rescue organization that the county purchase the "Jaws of Life" equipment costing approximately \$5,000. Motion was deferred to the next meeting.

Sampson County Man Turns Self In

A Sampson County man, Bobby Lee Joyner, 28, of Clinton, turned himself in Monday to the Duplin County Sheriff's Department. Joyner jumped his \$5,000 bond in January, 1976. He is charged with the October killing of Wade Gore, 38, of Route 2, Faison.

Joyner and his alleged accomplice, Roy James Wilson, 21, allegedly murdered Gore, left him by the roadside and then stole his truck. Wilson has been sentenced to seven to eight years in prison after pleading guilty to charges of involuntary manslaughter. Joyner told Duplin officers he was tired of running. He is being held in the county jail with no bail.

Prayer Breakfast

The Kenansville Jaycee will hold a dutch prayer breakfast at The Country Girl Restaurant on Tuesday, August 9th at 7 A.M. The public is cordially invited.

Open House

As a result of numerous requests from Reeves Brothers employees and other Duplin County citizens, an Open House is planned for Sunday, August 14th, from 2-5 p.m.

All employees, their relatives, friends and the general public are invited to attend. Light refreshments will be provided.

Health Center Kick-Off In Greenevers

Announcing the receipt of a \$14,500 grant from the State Office of Rural Health Services and official designation by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Irvy Jarman officially initiated the fundraising drive for Plain View

Health Services, Incorporated. A non-profit organization, Plain View Health Services was formed by concerned citizens from throughout Duplin County in order to expand the types of health services and increase the number of medical practitioners

in the area. Plans have been made for the construction of a health center and the recruitment of at least one physician.

The \$14,500 grant was specifically earmarked for purchase of medical and office equipment to furnish the interim facility, a mobile home located adjacent to the town hall in Greenevers.

The Regional Medical Program through the Office of Rural Health Services has provided similar assistance to other rural communities such as Holly Ridge in Onslow, Harrells in Sampson and Atkinson in Pender. In addition, the designation by the Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare entitles the community to be eligible for the assignment of a Public Health Service physician for a period of two years, with the possibility of the physician deciding to convert to private practice after that.

Before the gathering of some 30 persons who have volunteered to coordinate the fundraising, Jarman, President of PVHS, informed the group that their goal was to be \$50,000 which would allow for the purchase of property and additional equipment and supplies. Commenting on the enthusiasm and initial success of their efforts, Jarman said, "With all these folks believing in what we're doing, there's no way that we can't succeed. This is an important time for Greenevers and Duplin County in terms of health care. It's really exciting to be a part of it."

awards won by Duplin County from the National Association of Counties. As at all meetings where most people are strangers to one another, name badges were handed out. . . Well, according to the report I got, Arliss Albertson was walking around talking to everyone. . . just having a good time, and displaying his name badge. . . Every so often he would get a questionable glance. . . Finally one fellow came up to Arliss, shook his hand, looked at his name badge, and said, "How are you today, Eloise. . . Seems Arliss had his wife's name badge. . . Or I guess that is what happened. . . It was never really made clear if he just had on the name badge or her clothes. . . Snakes make almost everyone nervous. . . And when it is a rattler, it is for sure he will get the distance he wants. . . This past weekend, some fellows heard a snake under some tin. . . Alfred Basden being one of them. . . Well, they decided to kill the rattler before he bit some kid. . . The rattling could be heard clearly under the tin, which was covered with dirt. . . Well, it was decided a pry-pole was needed to lift the tin without getting too close so a shot could be fired. . . A green pole would not do because it would bend, so a long two-by-four was found and stuck under the tin and it was lifted. . . The snake was shot at. . . And one could barely see his tail, which was stuck up in the air and was rattling. . . Alfred stooped over to look under the tin, having his head under the two-by-four. . . For some reason it slipped and whacked Alfred on the head. . . Ever see a rattlesnake surrounded by stars? . . . Alfred did. . . By the way, the snake had 13 rattlers. . . Alfred had a headache. . . Son-of-a-gun. . .

Son Of A Gun

By Joe Lanier

Thus far it has been a hot, dry summer. Though rain has fallen in many parts of Duplin County, it has missed us most of the time. My grass is dying, but Donna has kept her flowers watered. . . To top it all, the other afternoon it began to rain and Donna got so excited she ran outside and rolled down the windows of my car. . . Not up, mind you. . . Down. . . I knew something was wrong. I was sitting in the shop painting when she went out to roll the windows up (I thought), but when she got back and was looking out the door, she began laughing. . . I asked her what was so funny and she says, "Look. . . I did and saw all the windows in my car down. . . I thought you rolled them up." I said, "She answered, 'I thought so too. . . Guess I turned the handle the wrong way.' . . That gal is something else. . . I wouldn't take a million dollars for her. . .

Donna is not the only person I know who gets mixed up. At the County Commissioners meeting Monday in Kenansville, I got confused, too. . . There was a great deal of discussion about letting the jail bids, but finally the motion was made by Bill Costin to let the bids. . . Now one of the Commissioners voted not to let the bids. . . The other three voted to do so. . . Then a motion was made to use Revenue Sharing money to help build the jail. . . The Commissioner who voted not to let the bids, voted to use Revenue Sharing money. . . And one of those who voted to let the bids, voted not to use Revenue Sharing money. . . This was confusing to me. . . Why vote not to let bids, and vote to use money. . . And why vote not to use this money and vote to let the bids? . . . Well, according to those doing the voting, Arliss Albertson voted not to let the bids, saying he believed the contractors were aware of Duplin being under a mandate to build, and the bids were too high. . . D.J. Fussell voted not to use the Revenue Sharing money, saying it should go to the schools. . . Perfectly clear???

Sure it is! . . . Speaking of the Commissioners. . . Arliss Albertson and his wife, along with Mary Stevens and her husband, went to Detroit to pick up some

DUPLIN COUNTY RECEIVES AWARDS - Duplin County was presented with its 1977 Achievement Awards at the 42nd annual conference of the National Association of Counties (NACo) in Detroit, Michigan, July 27th. The annual awards are given to counties who have been specially honored for their outstanding citizen service and for innovative programs leading to more efficient, modern county government. Duplin County received its awards

for its: Arts Council Project, Small County Personnel System, Bell-Jordan Group Home and Health Occupations Student Organization. NACo is the national spokesman for county government in the United States. Accepting on behalf of Duplin County (standing from left to right) are: Arliss Albertson, vice-chairman, County Board of Commissioners, and Mary Stevens, personnel director.

Duplin Crops Damaged

Rains this week brought welcomed relief to Duplin crops, but according to the Natural Disaster Damage Assessment Report from May 1 to July 20, one-half of Duplin's tobacco and corn crops have been damaged.

Drought and hot weather have damaged 6,000 of the 12,700 acres of tobacco grown in Duplin County. The estimated dollars lost in the tobacco crops is \$3,000,000.

Seventy thousand acres of corn grown in Duplin represents

the largest crop loss. An estimated 3,500 acres of corn loss represents \$4,000,000 in dollars to farmers.

Truck crops were cut in half with 4,000 acres being grown in the county. 2,000 acres damaged and a loss of \$1,000,000.

Hog and poultry farmers also suffered losses during this dry and hot summer. Over 3,000 hogs were reported lost during this period, representing a \$240,000 loss to farmers. The

poultry loss was estimated at 150,000, representing a \$300,000 loss to the farmers.

The number of farmers in Duplin County affected in the report was 650 out of the 2,600 farmers in the County. There have been more farmers to file damages since the July 20th report.

The County's gross farm income last year was \$163,000,000. Damages to this year's crops, livestock and poultry totals \$8,940,000 through July.

Bids Received For Courthouse Addition

Bids on the addition to Duplin County Courthouse annex and renovation were opened Tuesday. Low bids totaled \$616,843 for the project.

Bids were opened before the County Board of Commissioners by Leslie Boney, Wilmington architect.

Eastern Construction Co. of Greenville was low with the general contract on a bid of \$317,640 plus an alternate of \$49,105 for renovation and \$9,000 to remove and replace terrazzo tile on the floor of the old courthouse.

Other bidders were King-Hunter, Inc., Greensboro with \$351,362 plus \$34,889 and \$6,280; and Godwin Bldg. Co. of Warsaw with \$259,000 plus \$81,000 plus \$12,200.

Low bidder on plumbing was Kluge Plumbing, Inc., of Kenansville with \$13,138. Others were Saunders of Wilmington, \$21,717 and Mechanical Associates, Inc., of Cary, \$25,200.

Phyllis, Inc., of Kenansville with \$112,000 plus an alternate of \$12,000 and an estimating. Other bidders were disqualified.

Associates at \$115,392 plus \$51,960 and Jordan-Blanton-Myers of Wilmington, \$118,540 plus \$51,300.

D. & B. Electrical, Inc., of Fayetteville was low bidder at \$64,500 for electrical work. Others were Southerland Electrical Co., of Jacksonville, \$71,318, and Hodges Electric of Wilmington, \$71,363.

The addition will be in the form of a second story over most of the original courthouse annex which was completed in 1960. It will contain a courtroom, board

of elections office, juvenile probation office, additional law library space and the county finance office. The present finance office adjacent to the county commissioners meeting room will be converted into an addition to the meeting room and to the county tax office.

Renovation of the old courthouse, which was built in 1911, will include lowering the ceilings, placing air conditioning ducts in the space between the old and the new ceilings, and replacing the tile floor.

Escaped Felon Returned To Duplin

Phil Thomas Melvin, 26, of Fayetteville, an escaped felon from the Brunswick unit of the state corrections system, was returned to the jail by Duplin County authorities Monday.

Melvin was arrested by Rose Hill Police Chief James Masters who had received him for the July 26th night of a home burg of cash from Rose's Foodline in Rose Hill.

Melvin is also wanted in Elizabeths on a charge of larceny by trick.

District Pageant

There will be a Miss Goldsboro District Pageant Saturday, August 12th at 8 p.m. at the Kenansville Elementary School Auditorium.