

DUPLIN SENTINEL

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

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Taxpayers To Air Complaints May 9-11 To Duplin Commissioners

The County Commissioners will sit as a board of equalization and review May 9, 10 and 11 to hear taxpayer complaints about property valuations and assessments. They will meet at 10 a.m. in the auditorium of the Agricultural Building.

At their meeting Monday, the Commissioners asked persons planning to appear before the review board to call the Tax Supervisor's office at 296-0648 before their appearance so the tax office can forward necessary papers to the review board. The tax office is temporarily housed in a mobile unit while the courthouse is being renovated and is very short of space.

The Board made a rental agreement with Gregory Pool Equipment of Wilmington for a hydraulic excavator for the mosquito control program. Rent will be \$2,700 per month. Fur-

chase price of the equipment is \$102,114. A representative of the company said the machine should be on the job by April 15.

The state jail inspector informed the Board by letter it should make some repairs on two showers in the present jail, cover some bare electric bulbs with globes, move the washing machine away from its present location near the cooking range, and post a master fire plan in the jail.

The county bar association asked the Board to do everything possible to speed work on the courtroom facilities since the make-shift court facility at James Sprunt Institute lacks needed rooms and space. The Board asked the builders what could be done and was informed the old courtroom will be ready July 1.

Commissioner Arliss

Albertson read a letter received from the White House in response to the Board's letter to President Carter last month asking about his stand on the tobacco program.

The letter stated, "The President has made clear that he does not seek to jeopardize the livelihood of America's tobacco farmers through elimination of price support programs for tobacco. He does believe, however, that the federal government has the

responsibility to inform the American people of the potential health hazards of cigarette smoking and to support research that might reduce or eliminate those hazards."

The letter was signed by Landon Kite, staff assistant. The Board endorsed a resolution urging construction of 50 additional apartment units at Stewart Creek Apartments in Warsaw by North Hills, Inc. of Raleigh. Commissioner W.J. Costin of Warsaw said he had

found the project was approved by all but two officials in the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The complex is for low income families and the rent is subsidized. Costin said HUD officials wanted the additional units built in a different location to avoid segregation.

An improvement in Mental Health Services was outlined by Dr. E.J. Raman, head of the Mental Health Department. The improvements began Monday,

Dr. Raman said. He said Hughie Rhodes, director of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Services, has become Emergency Services Coordinator, and is to be paid at a rate of \$10 per call. Previously, the after-hours emergency services were on a volunteer basis with most of the load falling on Rhodes. A staff member is now on call after office hours, and on holidays and weekends, to aid persons needing mental health, mental retardation, or alcoholism emergency services.

Board Of Education Asks For Funds To Build New School

Initial steps in the 1978-79 school budget determination process came with approval by the Board of Education of a \$14,250,549 expenditure proposal Tuesday, March 28th.

The Board, while not expressing satisfaction with its proposed budget, voted unanimously to present the request to the County Commissioners, which will consider it along with proposals from other county units and prior to June 30 make a final determination of the actual amounts to be appropriated.

The Board of Education's proposed budget includes a request for funding for the delayed Kenansville Elementary School. Because the

county was ordered to build a new jail last year, funds for the Kenansville Elementary were deleted from the current fiscal year's budget. Last spring the commissioners indicated they might look favorably upon doubling the school board's request of \$500,000 to start the building. Total cost of the building is now estimated at \$1.8 million.

The school board's request for direct county tax funds for next fiscal year is \$2,718,276, compared with \$1,354,000 appropriated for the current fiscal year.

The request approved Tuesday night was for \$1,739,904 in federal funds, \$8,484,448 from state public school funds (prin-

cipally for teachers' salaries), \$172,919 from local non-tax revenue, \$305,000 from local food services in the schools, and \$830,000 from revenue sharing.

The total school budget for the present fiscal year is \$11,885,768. However, capital outlay funds were cut in the present fiscal year to \$140,414.

The proposed capital outlay for 1978-79 includes \$1.8 million for the Kenansville Elementary School building, \$300,000 for site improvement, \$20,000 for land acquisition, \$23,475 for electrical wiring, \$12,000 for a play area at the Rose Hill-Magnolia School, \$17,800 for replacement of furniture and equipment, \$10,343 for office equipment, \$5,500 for a maintenance truck,

\$6,850 for a tractor and bush hog, \$2,529 for a lunchroom truck, \$2,600 for a trailer, and \$1,000 for the bus garage.

A \$60,000 item for supplementing teacher pay stirred controversy and won approval by a 3-2 vote, with Board Chairman Brock, Rhodes and Strickland favoring, and Boyette and Phillips opposing. Dr. Boyette said he was not against higher teacher pay, but he thought county supplements unfair — that the pay should come from the state. He pointed out that counties with large tax revenues, such as Mecklenburg, "can supplement their teachers \$2,000, while counties like Duplin and Pender can't afford to supplement them anything."

Son Of A Gun

By Joe Lanier

J.P. Stevens and the Union sure seem to be having a time of it. They're both making the cuts and doing for some time now, and when one wins a court decision, the other appeals. The Union is telling the worker one thing, and Stevens is telling them another. Both are saying they have the workers' welfare in mind. But personally, I think the Union is more interested in the Union's welfare, and J.P. Stevens is more interested in J.P. Stevens' welfare. I remember the time when, in Duplin County, a person would almost fight you to get a job at J.P. Stevens in Wallace.

It reminds me of an incident that happened to me that I wish had never happened. I have never been the same since.

Several years ago, I was working for this company. I was making above-average wages. The minimum wage at that time was \$1.65, and I was being paid \$4 an hour. I was required to work only 35 hours, but was being paid for 40. I had always thought I had but one thing to sell, and that was my labor. I thought that I should get the best price I could for it, and give the amount of work required, plus a bit more. This always worked for me. I never thought of the unpleasant things in my job, for it was required. Thus, why dread it? Just go ahead and do it. And do the unpleasant with all the enthusiasm that I had for the pleasant things.

Then one day, this fellow went along with me to do my job, and he kept saying, "I would not do this. . . and that. . ." and "This is too hard to do. . ." and "This is too dirty to do. . ." And I began to dread the little unpleasant parts of the job. . .

Soon I dreaded them so much that I quit and took a job that paid less. . . But for many years after that, I began to look for the unpleasant things in a job and dreaded to do them. . .

I would have been a happier person. . . a more satisfied person. . . had I never met this fellow. . . He put doubts in my mind that I had not had before. . .

It took a long time to overcome this, and though the fellow thought he was helping me, he was not. . .

Election time is coming, and with all those running for office, it is a good time to let your pet power be known. . . If there is something important you feel local government or something or someone put this issue to be changed, now is the time to get the politicians' attention. . . And get their promises. . . After the election, it will be too late. . . Your input at this time will carry

more weight and has a better chance of getting something done. . . Call or talk, personally, with those running for County Commissioner, School Board seats, and for the State House of Representatives. . . Let your views be known, and if this person is elected, hold them accountable. . .

The Bigfoot footprints that were reported in the Delco area south of Wilmington were reported as phony by the Wilmington Morning Star. . . Someone had made a large plaster cast resembling a foot and gone tramping through the swamp. The cast was found in a wooded area by a farmer and his son. . . Seems a shame. . . That makes two sets of tracks gone from the area. . . The Maco Light was reported to be Old Joe Baldwin looking for his head, so the story goes. . . He lost his head in a train accident in the area many years ago, and was now walking up and down the tracks searching by lantern light for his missing head. . . And now the railroad tracks are there no more. . . They have been taken up, and poor Old Joe Baldwin has no tracks to trace. . . He might get lost now that the tracks are gone and wander onto the highway and get run over by a car. . . Of course, it could have been that as one legend was being destroyed, someone wanted a new one. . . and was trading the Maco Light for a Bigfoot. . . Son-of-a-Gun. . .

Pink Hill Man

Charged With Murder

Willie James (Buckshot) McGathy, 29, of Route 2, Pink Hill, was charged Monday with the shooting death of Josephine Jones Whitfield, 40, of Route 2, Pink Hill.

McGathy remains in the Duplin County jail without bond after the Sunday night shooting.

The shooting occurred three miles south of Pink Hill. Deputy A.E. Hasden of the Sheriff's Department and S.B.I. Agent Paul Bassman investigated the 8:54 shooting. They reported the woman had been shot once in the chest with a sawed-off rifle.

JK Wins

First Tennis Match

James Kenan defeated Clifton High School in high school tennis action Tuesday. The match was a first in the history for the JK tennis.

In singles, Guerro (C) defeated David West (JK) 6-3, 6-2; Trullinger (C) defeated Falderson (JK) 6-3, 6-4; Owens (C) defeated Boothe (JK) 6-1, 6-4; Mizell (JK) defeated Pearson (C) 6-4, 6-3; Brian West (JK)

defeated Ship (C) 6-1, 6-3; and Kearnstein (JK) defeated Gujrati (C) 7-6, 6-2.

In doubles, Guerro and Pearson (C) defeated Mizell and West (JK) 8-1; Boothe and Trullinger (JK) won over Owens and Trullinger (C); and Eiddick and D. West (JK) over Ship and Robbins (C) 8-5.

James Kenan won by a score of 5-4.

College. Third runner-ups received a certificate of merit and a scholarship at Mt. Olive College, and fourth runner-ups received a certificate of merit and a scholarship at Mt. Olive College.

In addition, a year's music scholarship was offered a winner in the music category by the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

This year's Golden Star students from Duplin County include: Foreign Language,

fourth runner-up, Jesse Morgan Savage of Wallace-Rose Hill; General Scholarship, third runner-up, Rodney Clyde Motley of East Duplin; Journalism, first runner-up, Tammy Lisa Howard of James Kenan; Art, third runner-up, Trilby Carr Phillips of James Kenan; Citizenship, fourth runner-up, Charles Lee Helton of James Kenan; English and Literature, second runner-up, Brian Raynor West of James Kenan; and Athletics, fourth runner-up,

Alice Anne Pate of East Duplin.

These students were selected from 191 applications submitted to Golden Star judges and were interviewed March 18th and the winners were selected. This is the 12th year of the awards. The awards are open to students in Brunswick, Bladen, Columbus, Duplin, New Hanover, Onslow and Pender counties, the school system of Whiteville, the Dependency School at Camp Lejeune, and private schools.

Golden Star Honors Duplin County High School Students

Firemen Hear Candidates At Quarterly Meeting

A large crowd attended the quarterly meeting of the Duplin County Firemen's Association in Magnolia Tuesday night, which featured two-minute speeches from many candidates seeking office in the May 2 primary election.

Most of the candidates attending expressed their thanks for the services of the volunteer firemen and solicited their support in the upcoming May 2 primary. Those attending included: Arliss Albertson, Randall Albertson; Tommy Baker, Jack Blanchard, Doug Clark, J. Willard Hoffer, Dennis Smith, Larry Turlington, Calvin C. Turner, Franklin Williams, Dave McNight and James R. Strickland.

After a turkey dinner, those attending were welcomed by R.P. Wood, Association President, and Magnolia Fire Chief Clarence Evans.

During a business session, the association members voted to change their quarterly meeting date to the second Wednesday night. Hiram Brinson announced

that the "Jaws of Life" would be delivered in Kenansville Sunday with a demonstration that afternoon. According to Brinson, the local campaign netted \$5,880.88 with the county only having to add around \$450 for the purchase of the "Jaws of Life."

Emmel Coggins, Area Coordinator of Fire Service Training, Department of Community Colleges, introduced Horace Moore, Chairman of the N.C. Firemen's Commission, as the speaker.

Moore, from Snow Hill, and a volunteer fireman for 33 years, gave a short talk on the benefits of the State Firemen's Association, including their scholarships, relief fund and pension plan. Moore concluded his speech by saying, "Thank you for letting me be a part of this, and let all your fires be small."

Melvin Pope, Mayor of Magnolia, was recognized, and said, "I'm very glad to have everyone here. . . especially the candidates, and when you are elected, don't forget Magnolia."

Glenn Jernigan of Faison, President of the North Carolina Firemen's Association, announced that the State Convention would be held in Boone on July 31 - August 3rd.

Mental Health Emergency Service Extend Hours

Dr. E.J. Raman, Area Director, Duplin County Mental Health Center, announced change in the Mental Health emergency services. Beginning April 3, a staff member will be on call after office hours, on holidays and weekends to review, evaluate and make appropriate disposition for anyone who requires Mental Health, Mental Retardation or Alcoholism services. This would not require any overtime pay for the employee as they would be placed on a fee basis. The telephone number is 296-1851.

Duplin 4-H Fashion Show Winners



4-H APRON DIVISION WINNERS - (L to R) First Place - Amanda Hales, Blue Ribbon and towel set; Second Place - Kim Hall, Blue Ribbon and fabric; and Third Place - Ann Taylor Blanton, Blue Ribbon and fabric. Each girl made the apron she is wearing.



4-H PRE-TEEN DIVISION WINNERS - (L to R) First Place - Laura Rose Swain, Blue Ribbon; Second Place - Thevesa Fennell, Blue Ribbon; and Third Place - Sharon Lynn Blackburn, Blue Ribbon. Each girl made the outfit she is wearing.



4-H EARLY TEEN DIVISION WINNERS - (L to R) First Place - Felicia Ann Washington, Blue Ribbon; Second Place - Cindy Sanderson, Blue Ribbon; and Third Place - Lita Fennell, Blue Ribbon. Each girl made the outfit she is wearing.



4-H SENIOR TEEN DIVISION - (L to R) First Place Winners - Ava Joe Raynor, Julia Spicer, Marderia Stallings; and Runner-up Leah Usher. The First place winner will represent Duplin County in the State 4-H Fashion Show this spring. Each girl made the outfit she is wearing.

National Library Week

Duplin County-Dorothy Wightman Library in Kenansville is celebrating National Library Week, April 3-9. In honor of this yearly event, the Library "wants to thank all Duplinites for allowing us to serve you," says John Archibald, Director. "During the first two weeks in April - April 3 through 14 - NO library FINES will be charged for OVERDUE books. Please save us time in having to contact patrons with past due books and get them to us without questions asked during the first two weeks in April. . . Books can be returned during library hours, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, or left in the large book-drop just in front of the main entrance."