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Kenansville Water Bond Issue Fails

Voters in Kenansville defeated a proposed \$170,000 water bond issue by the one-vote margin of 62 to 61 Tuesday.

"The turnout was around 30 percent," Woody Brinson, town administrator, reported. "Ordinarily, the turnout runs about 60-65% of the estimated 450 registered voters of the city."

If the bond issue had been

approved, Kenansville would have been eligible for grants totaling \$700,000 for water system improvements.

Brinson said the state local government commission had told him the 78% of the total financial package coming from grants would have been the highest in the state.

The town board met Monday night to determine its future course.

Brinson said the bond issue may have failed because the public didn't understand the issue.

The funds would have been used for enlarging and improving the water system by replacing 40-year-old pipe lines, improving the design of the pipe system to create loops rather than dead ends in the lines, adding an elevated water storage tank and drilling a new well.

James Sprunt Institute Graduation Sunday

The seventeenth annual graduation exercises for James Sprunt Institute will be held Sunday, September 16 at 6 p.m. in the William Rand Kenan, Jr. Amphitheatre in Kenansville.

Over 200 graduates will receive degrees, diplomas, and certificates in general education, technical, vocational, and adult diploma programs offered on campus. This is the largest number of graduates in the school's history.

The public is invited to the exercises and to hear Dr. Blyden Jackson, this year's speaker. Dr. Jackson is a nationally recognized educator and professor of English. He was born in Paducah, Kentucky in 1910, and is married to the former Roberta Bowles. Dr. Jackson received an A.B. degree from Wilberforce in 1930; the A.M. degree from the University of Michigan in 1938, and the Ph.D. in 1952. He was a Rosenwald fellow from 1947-49.

Dr. Jackson's experience includes teacher of English in public schools in Louisville (1934-45); associate professor of English, Fisk Uni-

versity (1945-54); professor of English and department head, Southern University (1954-62); Dean of Graduate School, Southern University (1962-69); professor of English, UNC-CH (1969-present); Associate Dean of graduate school (1973-present); and Assistant to Dean of Graduate School and Professor of English, UNC-Chapel Hill (1979-).

Dr. Jackson holds membership in the following organizations: College Language Association (served as president from 1957-59); Modern Language Association; College Language Association (president from 1956-58); National Council of

Technical English; American Speech Association; N.C. Teachers of English; and Alpha Phi Alpha Society.

He is also the author of "Operation Burning Candle," a novel written in 1974; "The Waiting Years: Essays on American Negro Literature;" and co-author with Louis Rubin of "Black Poetry in America: 2 Essays in Historical Interpretations."

Following the graduation exercises Sunday, the public is cordially invited to attend a reception on the grounds of the amphitheatre. In the event of inclement weather, the graduation and reception will be held in the Kenan

School Board

Unsure On Fate Of School Property

The only sure thing about the fate of the old Kenansville Elementary School property, after students move into the new building, appears to be that it will no longer be used for a school.

This past week, the Duplin Board of Commissioners sent a letter to the Board of Education asking for transfer of the property to the county government from the school administration.

Wednesday, Dr. E. L. Boyette, chairman of the school board, said he had received the letter, but that no decision on disposing of the property has been reached. He said the school board will determine the disposition of the property after the opening of the new Kenansville Elementary School, currently scheduled for late winter. He noted the school board has cooperated with the county and towns on disposal of surplus property.

"Certain procedures need to be followed," he said. "We are not dragging our feet (on future plans for the property), but the new school is already 90 days behind schedule, and we just don't know when we're going to get into it."

Board member Patricia Broadrick said she favors giving the property to the county when the school is abandoned. She noted the 50-year-old building is in bad physical condition, and said she would not approve of any use that would bring many people into it.

Neither the commissioners nor the school board will commit itself to any specific plans for using the building after it is abandoned as a school.

Boyette said the county's request for the land does not include the site of the amphitheater built behind Kenan Memorial Auditorium. Disposition of the elementary school property will have no effect on either the auditorium or the amphitheater, nor will it have any

effect on the approved transfer of a 100-by-400-foot tract of land from the school system to Duplin General Hospital. Formal transfer of this property will be completed after a survey of the property lines has been completed.

Supporting his statement of cooperation between the school board and the county and towns, Boyette pointed out previous school land transfers. When the former Wallace primary and elementary schools were abandoned, the property was turned over to the city to be developed into the Clement Street Park. The former C.W. Dobbins school property went to the Duplin area mental health department.

After the Rose Hill school burned and the new Rose Hill-Magnolia school was built, the property was turned over to the city. The remaining portions of the structure were turned into a community building and the land into a park.

Much of the former Magnolia school complex has been torn down. It was donated to the town which has refurbished the auditorium for public use. The town is now renovating the gymnasium for use by the community. A ballpark fence is now being constructed on the site.

Another former school site near Rose Hill has been converted in the Archway East, an alcoholic treatment center, and the Omega Workshop for the mentally retarded, both under jurisdiction of the mental health department.

The former Warsaw school site is now being turned into a recreational park and the former Faison school site is now a recreational park.

The Calypso school site was partly donated and partly sold to the town. The town sold the portion it purchased in order to raise money to develop the other portion into a park.



BRINSON SIGNS DOCUMENT - Amos Q. Brinson of Kenansville signs oath of office as newest member of the James Sprunt Institute Board of Trustees. County and school officials witness the signing. (Left to right)

John Anderson Johnson, Clerk of Superior Court of Duplin County; James F. Stickland, Chairman of Board of Trustees of James Sprunt Institute; Dr. Carl D. Price, President; and Mrs. Judy Davis, Secretary.

Hunt Names Brinson To James Sprunt Trustee Board

Amos Q. Brinson was sworn in as James Sprunt Institute's newest trustee by John Anderson Johnson, Clerk of Superior Court, on Thursday, August 30, 1979. Brinson, a retired drugstore operator, was appointed by Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. to fill an 8-year term on the board of trustees. The board is composed of four members appointed by the Governor, four appointed by the Board of Education, four appointed by the county commissioners; and one ex-officio non-voting member, presi-

dent of the Student Government Association. Brinson lives in Kenansville, where he has been a life-long resident. He is married to the former Edna E. Edgerton of Wallace, and they have one son, Amos Q. Brinson, Jr. (Doc), who is married to the former Beth West. They have two sons, Russell Amos, 6, and Daniel Milton, 3. Brinson attended both Wake Forest University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is a member of the Kenansville

Baptist Church and has served as a deacon, choir member, and superintendent of the Sunday School. He is a member of the Kenansville Masonic Lodge and past master; a member of the Woodmen of the World, the Duplin County Development

Board; and has been named chairman for the Duplin County Cancer Crusade and the Good Neighbor Council of Duplin County. Brinson served as mayor of Kenansville from 1949 until 1953, and was a town commissioner from 1947-48. He

was treasurer for 20 years of the Eastern Baptist Association, and has coached Little League baseball in Kenansville. He is an honorary member of the Guilford College Alumni Board in Greensboro.

Duplin County Board Seeks Old School Property

The Duplin County Board of Commissioners formally asked the Board of Education for the property on which the present Kenansville Elementary School stands. A new school, scheduled to open early next year, is being built on the opposite side of town from the old school.

Commissioner D.J. Fussell told Superintendent C. H. Yelverton, "We were told you needed a school here. The county now wants the property. The county has no other property available to it in Kenansville."

Commissioner Allen Nethercutt said, "In the future, all land purchased for school buildings should be titled to Duplin County, and then there'll be no question of who will get the land when or if it is no longer used for a school."

Yelverton did not say what the school board plans for the site. He said the old building should be condemned.

County Manager Ralph Cottle told the Board he has been notified CETA positions are frozen so that when a worker quits, he cannot be replaced. On September 30, 48 CETA positions, including 16 in the county government, will be abolished due to the end of one CETA program, Cottle said. The school, county, library and towns employ more than 100 CETA workers.

The Board also required department heads to ask employees not to take 240 hours (or six weeks) in one vacation. Employees are not

allowed to accumulate vacation time over three years. The Board wants employees to take their two weeks of vacation each year.

Charlotte architect Charles

Greer presented preliminary plans for the new county library to be located on the corner of Seminary and Bowden Street, facing the social services building. The plans call for a building of

colonial design costing an estimated \$251,560. Greer will return November 5 for final approval. He said he could have bids ready to open at the December meeting.



SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTED - Carolyn Murphy presents scholarship check in the amount of \$150 to Dr. Carl D. Price, President, James Sprunt Institute. Mrs. Murphy, supervisor of elections, said the new scholarship is to be awarded to a North Carolina resident who will be attending James Sprunt Institute and will be based on

need. Murphy stated that the scholarship is funded through the News Election Services and made possible through the cooperation of the registrars and judges reporting election returns to NES. For each call that is made to NES, \$2 is designated toward the scholarship.

Sheriff's Report

The Duplin County Sheriff's Department has investigated seven cases of breaking, entering and larceny during the past two weeks.

Artless Robertson was involved in an accident on NC 11 on August 26 and reported breaking, entering and larceny of two guns from his truck. The guns were valued at \$210, and Dalton Jones was the deputy in charge of the investigation.

The Sycamore Center Number Two, a truck stop in Faison, reported a BE&L of a gas pump control, credit card machine, 14 packs of assorted cigarettes, and 15 quarts of assorted oil. The value of the missing items was estimated at \$507, and all but \$7 worth of the items were recovered. No one was charged. Glenn Jernigan was the officer in charge of the investigation.

Rembert Foley of Route 1, Wallace, reported BE&L and larceny of three guns and one box of bullets from his residence on September 3rd. Officer E.W. Whitaker investigated, and the missing items were valued at \$500.

Evelene's Diner in Chainquapin reported a BE&L of \$6 in change on September 6. Damage to the diner was \$10. Deputy E. G. Baker investigated.

Steve's Food Center in Chainquapin reported a breaking, entering and larceny on September 3. \$15 in change and four cartons of

cigarettes, valued at \$30.62 were missing. Officer E.G. Baker was in charge of the investigation.

Louis Carlton of Route 2, Rose Hill, reported a BE&L. An assortment of clothes was reported missing on September 4th. The missing clothes were valued at \$163.97, and E. G. Baker was the officer in charge of the investigation.

The Sheriff's Department also investigated three larcenies and one case of vandalism. Mary Lee Tann of Route 1, Faison, reported the larceny of a green and white 10-speed bicycle during the night of August 24. The bike was valued at \$100, and Officer Kenneth Savage investigated.

Delmar Minchew, Buick-Oldsmobile of Wallace reported the larceny of a wheel, tire and rim valued at \$135 during the night of August 25. Officer E. G. Baker investigated.

Eunice McGowan reported the larceny of her automobile battery on August 26th. McGowan was working at The Country Squire when she said someone took the battery from her car. This is the second one taken from the McGowan car during August while it was parked at The Country Squire.

A vandalism was reported by James Henry Kea of Route 2, Rose Hill, on September 1st. Kea said someone shot the passenger car window from his father's car.