

# Duplin Times

## PROGRESS SENTINEL

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### JSTC Funds Approved Produce Facilities

**JSTC Funds Approved**

KENANSVILLE-The James Sprunt College board of trustees voted Thursday to spend \$39,364 renovating its oldest building. The board also re-elected its chairman and vice chairman to their 15th consecutive terms.

The board approved a contract of \$15,787 to change the walls and renovate the McGowan Building, the school's first building erected in 1966. That contract went to Brown Kennedy Construction Co. of Beaulaville, the only bidder although bid invitations went to 11 firms.

Robert Lee, college finance officer, said state laws allow the board to award a contract for business under \$30,000 when only one bid is received.

Other contracts the board approved with competing bids were \$16,000 for installing air conditioning and heating and \$7,577 for renovating the electrical system.

Re-elected to yet another one-year term were Chairman James Strickland of Warsaw and Vice Chairman Willard Hoffer. The two are charter members of the school's first board.

Dr. Gene Ballard, dean of instructions, reported that 206 high school students were recently tested under a program that allows Duplin County students to get college credit for taking high school courses patterned after those offered at James Sprunt. He said about 160 students received college credit for some high school courses.

The total of 206 students taking the test is up from the previous high of 120, Ballard said. He said the popularity of the program, only about two years old, is growing. At

least two other technical colleges have agreed to transfer the credits for high school work, encouraging even more students to sign up for the testing under an "articulation" program, he said.

In other business, the board made four appointments to the James Sprunt Foundation. Reappointed to the foundation were Willard Hoffer of Wallace, Charles Albertson of Beaulaville, Pearl S. McGowan of Kenansville and Tom Yates of Pink Hill. Emmet Wickline of Beaulaville was reappointed to the foundation.

### Produce Facilities Begin Operation At Quinn Company

The first shipments from the new produce facilities at Quinn Wholesale in Warsaw were sent out by the truckload on May 18.

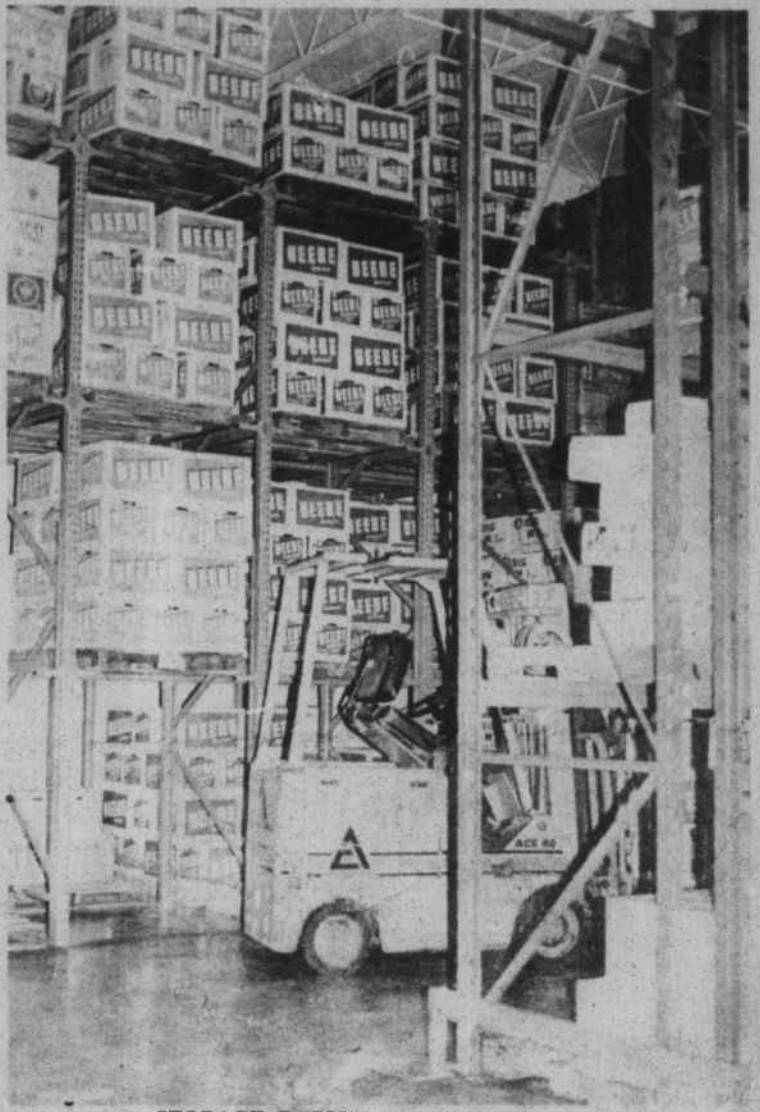
The additional facilities expand the Quinn Company's capacity to include fruits, vegetables, meats and other perishable products.

Quinn wholesale receives and then ships perishable products daily. The produce storage units house products from California and Florida as well as from local farmers.

Gerald Quinn, vice-president of Quinn Company, told the Times in a previous article that this "new produce section is to provide better service to present customers" as well as hopefully aiding in acquiring new customers. Quinn Company of Warsaw is one of the major food distributors in the Southeastern United States.

The produce from the new warehouse addition is being shipped in seven refrigerated trucks that had been purchased by Quinn Company since construction first began last year. Gerald Quinn explained that these trucks have three different temperature controlled compartments. The front compartment, maintained at 28 degrees fahrenheit, houses meats, the middle at 35 degrees fahrenheit holds milk and in back, at 48 degrees is where produce is kept. Quinn added that the company plans to acquire two more of these trucks.

According to Quinn, the company has begun with 150-175 items with plans to include even more.



STORAGE ROOMS that were empty two weeks ago are now stocked full of produce at Quinn Company's new facilities in Warsaw. This room houses fruits and vegetables at 35 degrees with a high humidity.

### Daughter Files Suit

The daughter of a prominent Duplin County woman murdered April 22 has sued a Mount Olive man for a \$20,000 loan allegedly owed her mother.

The lawsuit was filed Tuesday in Duplin County Superior Court by Mary J.

Williamson of Kenansville against the Rev. Sheldon Howard of Mount Olive.

The lawsuit seeks the \$20,000 and 12 percent interest a year since Dec. 21, 1979.

The woman who made the loan, Inez Jernigan, 53, was found dead in her kitchen

from a crushed skull. The woman had also been stabbed three times, but investigating officers have not found the knife.

Mrs. Jernigan, the owner of a Kenansville tractor company, was well known in Duplin County for backing mental health programs.

Duplin County Sheriff Elwood Revelle said Thursday that an extensive investigation since the incident has produced a prime suspect. He described the suspect as a male living outside Duplin County and said an arrest is expected soon.

### The Liberty Cart Dedicates 1981 Season To Paul Green

Rich Boyd, producing director of THE LIBERTY CART, and the Duplin Outdoor Drama Society recently announced that the 1981 production season will be dedicated to Paul Green.

Paul Green died on May 4, 1981. His gentle death at the age of 87 years marked the end of one of the South's greatest literary careers. He was a champion of the common man and an early campaigner for civil rights and an end of the death penalty. He insisted upon recognition of the dignity of all men.

His Pulitzer Prize winning play, In Abraham's Bosom, gave the America of 1927 its first powerful twentieth century look at the plight of the black man in the South. It was played on Broadway at the same time his angry play, The Field God, which attacked blind religious fanaticism, was also playing. It established Paul Green as a leader in his field, as a voice for the underdog, and as the dramatic artist who best

demonstrated the changing values of the South.

Green, who has received many awards, was named Dramatist Laureate of his native North Carolina in 1979 by the North Carolina General Assembly. He was previously awarded North Carolina's Gold Medal for Achievement in the Arts; and other awards were given by the American Theatre Association, the Roanoke Island Historical Association, the Southeastern Theatre Conference, and the Freedoms Foundation of Valley Forge.

Dr. Green, who gave constant encouragement to young writers, choreographers, actors, and musicians, also gave them, through his outdoor historical dramas, some of their best opportunities for paid employment. He was particularly noted for giving a chance to talented young directors and designers, a habit which most often led to advantages for everybody and careers for many.

Some of his outdoor history plays produced over the country have included The Lost Colony, The Common Glory, The Stephen Foster Story, Texas, The Lone Star, Wilderness Road, Cross and Sword, Trumpet in the Land, and The Confederacy.

He was a member of the executive committee of the U.S. National Committee for UNESCO and served as president of the National Theatre Conference. He was a member of the National Institute of Arts and Letters.

The staff and cast of THE LIBERTY CART are pleased to dedicate this production season to the whose philosophy, artistic skills, and will have set the pace of America's true epic theatre, the outdoor historical drama.

The 1981 production of THE LIBERTY CART will open in Kenansville on July 17 and be performed every Thursday through Sunday night through Aug. 23. For more information about THE LIBERTY CART, The Liberty

Cart, or how you can see the 1981 production a success, call David Thomas at 919-296-0721, or write THE LIBERTY CART, P.O. Box 470, Kenansville, NC 28349.

### Former Military Officer Buck Dies



WARSAW - Retired Maj. Gen. William M. Buck, former adjutant general of North Carolina, died Sunday after a long illness. He was 66.

A native of Rowland, Buck enlisted in the Army in 1942 and was commissioned a second lieutenant after attending officer candidate school. He served in the Pacific Theater in World War II, winning the Bronze Star.

In April 1947, he joined the N.C. National Guard and held numerous command positions. He operated tobacco warehouses in North Carolina and Georgia before accepting a full-time appointment as assistant adjutant general in 1971.

Buck was named adjutant general by Gov. James E. Holshouser Jr. in 1973, and held the post for two years before retiring. The adjutant general is the state's senior military officer.

He is survived by his wife, Martha H. Buck; a daughter, Catherine B. Strange of Wilmington; his mother, Mrs. George Bennett Sr. of Warsaw; a brother, George Bennett Jr. of Warsaw; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services were held Tuesday, at 3 p.m., Warsaw Baptist Church. Burial, Devotional Gardens with military honors.

### Duplin Tax Rate Will Not Change

KENANSVILLE - Duplin County's ad valorem tax rate will remain at 70 cents per \$100 assessed property valuation for the next fiscal year, but the 451 taxpayers in Oak Wolf Fire District in northern Duplin will pay an additional 7 cents.

The fire district needs to obtain \$9,676 for operations and maintenance and to pay the county 6 percent of the special levy for administration. The county will collect the tax along with its county taxes. With an assessed valuation of \$14,554,279, each penny of tax levy brings in \$1,382.65. The county will receive 6 percent of the tax to pay for administration costs.

The \$8,285,937 proposed county budget was approved Monday by the county board of commissioners which set the county tax rate at 70 cents for the second year.

The property tax will bring in \$4,280,822.

If the tax rate remains the same at 70 cents per \$100, a homeowner with property valued at \$45,000 would continue to have a yearly bill of \$315 for property taxes.

County employees will receive a 5 percent cost-of-living pay increase. Employees in the two lowest pay grades will receive a one-step or grade increase. Employees who have not received any salary increase in four years will also receive a one-step grade increase.

Seventy-four employees will receive the basic step increases, costing the county \$38,203. Twenty-three employees who have not had pay increases in four years will receive raises costing the county \$17,302.

The across-the-board 5 percent increase will cost the county \$98,000.

The board established a vehicle use policy sharply limiting the number of employees who can drive county vehicles home after work. Losing the privilege July 1 will be the jailor, part-time and full-time bailiffs, the supervisor and one mechanic at the landfill, the directors of the civil defense and health departments, the development commission, the dog warden and building inspector.

Joe Tillman of Warsaw was appointed to the Duplin-Sampson Regional Mental Health Board to succeed the late Inez Jernigan of Kenansville.

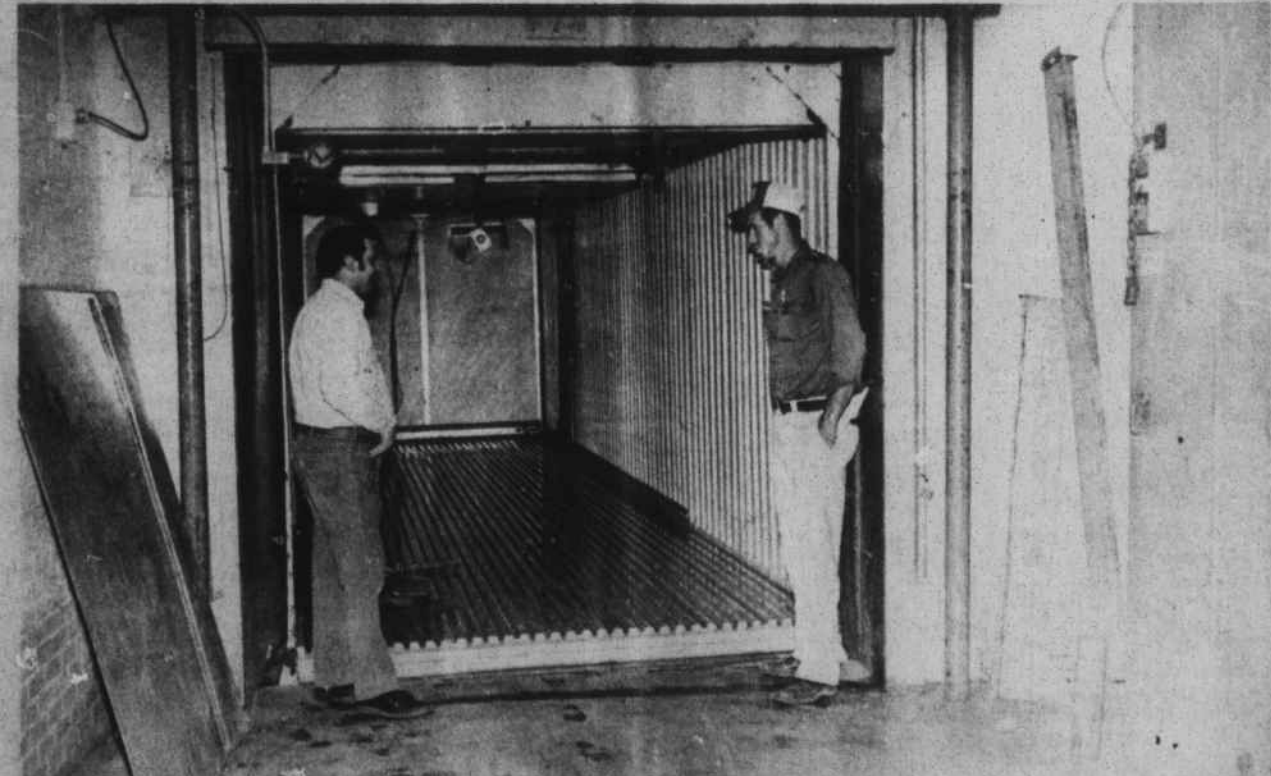
Univision Cable Systems Inc., of Jacksonville, made a cable television proposal to the board. It offered to cover the unincorporated areas of the county, serving a potential of 8,000 of 11,000 houses for \$9.50 per service per month. The firm would offer 21 channels. Gail Bailey, a part-owner of the firm, said it had \$6 million committed to cable construction for Duplin County.

The board decided it will prepare an ordinance establishing requirements for cable television service.

Jim Nabit, administrator of a private psychiatric hospital in Fayetteville, asked the board for its support in his effort to establish a regional private psychiatric hospital in Onslow County. He is proposing a 76-bed private hospital to serve Onslow, Duplin, Jones, Craven and Carteret counties.



PICTURED HERE is where potatoes, onions, etc. are stored at a 55 degree level. IGA is standing ready to be loaded onto the trucks.



VERNON HUFFMAN, day-time supervisor and Marshal Anders, night-time supervisor at Quinn Company stand at the loading dock of a truck waiting to be loaded. The trucks have three different temperature controlled compartments.

### County Library To Close Temporarily

The Duplin County-Dorothy Wightman Library in Kenansville will be closed to the public for two weeks, June 15-26, so that the staff can move into the new library building. During this time,

patrons may continue to borrow books from the library's branches in Beaulaville, Rose Hill and Warsaw. Patrons who presently have books, records, films and other materials borrowed from the library in Kenansville are

requested to return them by June 15th. There will be no circulation of films, books and audiovisual equipment; no interlibrary loan service; and no telephone reference service at the library in

Kenansville during the 2-week moving period. The library staff regrets this inconvenience for its patrons, but hopes to have all regular services restored by Monday, June 29th at its new location.