

Duplin Times

PROGRESS SENTINEL

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Charles H. Yelverton, Duplin School Superintendent Dies



CHARLES H. YELVERTON

Duplin County School Superintendent Charles H. Yelverton, 50, of Kenansville died Friday of a heart attack. Yelverton had been attending the school superintendents' and central office personnel session in Wilmington. He was at a social function at Wrightsville Beach when he had the attack late Thursday night. He died early Friday morning at New Hanover Memorial Hospital, according to his secretary,

Jean C. Stephens. Board of Education Chairman Graham Phillips said Friday Assistant Superintendent L. S. Guy will serve as acting superintendent until a new superintendent can be selected. Yelverton had served as county superintendent since 1968, upon the retirement of O. P. Johnson. Yelverton came to Duplin County from Southern Wayne High School in Wayne County, a school which he opened in 1967. He

also opened Orange Senior High School in Orange County. He taught in Cary High School, taught and coached at Four Oaks High School and was principal at Southern Wayne, Orange and Liberty High Schools. He graduated from high school in Smithfield. Yelverton received his B.A. and M.A. in education, history and physical education and advanced graduate study in professional education from the University of North Carolina. He was very

active in sports while at UNC, playing baseball four years, and was assistant football coach at the University in 1960. His activities prior to becoming a school administrator included coaching high school football, baseball and basketball. He is an honorary member of the FFA and of Distributive Education Clubs of America.

Charles H. Yelverton was a member of the Warsaw Kenansville Rotary Club and the North Carolina Association of School Administra-

tors. He served as president of the N.C. Athletic Officials Association as well as chairman of the Regional Exceptional Children's Advisory Committee. He was a member of the Tar Heel Fine Arts Society of Duplin County, vice president of the Duplin Outdoor Drama Association, was a past member of James Sprunt Technical College board of trustees, and secretary of the Liberty Hall Restoration Committee. Yelverton had recently been appointed a member of the advisory

board of the American Association of School Administrators. Yelverton was a member of the Kenansville Baptist Church and taught Sunday School and had been a deacon of the church.

Mr. Yelverton is survived by his wife, Mrs. Barbara Barnes Yelverton; a son, Paul Glenn Yelverton of the home; a daughter, Miss Pamela Dail Yelverton of the home; and a brother, Ralph Nelson Yelverton of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Funeral services for Mr. Yelverton were held Saturday afternoon, July 11, at Community Funeral Home in Warsaw. Burial was in Sunset Park in Smithfield.

Duplin County Commission Seeks Cable TV Bids

The Duplin Board of Commissioners last week invited cable television firms to submit bids for service to unincorporated areas of the county, for service to towns, and for service to both. The board decided it might be possible to obtain a better deal from firms desiring to serve towns as well as rural areas. Towns that already have franchises — Warsaw, Faison and Magnolia — will be excluded. The bid of \$19,628 by Crane M & M of Kinston for an ambulance was accepted.

The ambulance will be assigned to the Chinquapin Rescue Squad. Brice Sanderson, who started work July 1 as the county's fist building inspector, told the board he would enforce building codes but would use "common sense" in doing so. Sanderson has a state probationary license as building inspector. He told the board he must take and pass some state building inspection examinations when they become available. He was with the building inspection depart-

ment of Jacksonville when hired by Duplin County. The new position pays \$14,000 per year. The board agreed to allow J. Michael Moore, a county agricultural extension agent, 14 weeks of leave without pay this fall to take advanced college work studying tobacco, his specialty. The board also agreed to join the state courier service. This is a service delivering items among municipalities, counties, schools and the state government. The service plans to deliver items

between Kenansville and Kinston and Greenville the same day. Items destined from Kenansville to Clinton would be delivered the following day. The service costs

50 percent of the federal postage rate. Bill Savage of Warsaw was appointed to the county airport board to succeed Bob Williams, also of Warsaw.

Nashville Fiddler To Perform In Beulaville

Shoji Tabuchi (pronounced Show-Gee Ta-Boo-Chee) may not sound like the name of a Nashville fiddler, but this native of Japan can make the strings of a fiddle sing like anyone raised on country music. Shoji will appear in concert Saturday, July 18 at 8:15 p.m. at the East Duplin-Fine Arts Building in Beulaville. His visit is sponsored by the Duplin County Arts Council. The concert is free, but donations to the Council may be made at the door. Shoji is a regular on "The Grand Ole Opry" in Nashville and has performed on "Good Old Nashville Music" and "The Buck Owens Show" since he first played in Nashville in 1968. Born in Daishoji, Japan,

Shoji began studying violin at the age of seven under the Suzuki Method, the famous technique used by the finest concert violinists. At the age of 16, Shoji heard Roy Acuff during a Japanese tour and fell in love with country music. So, with \$500 in his pocket and another \$100 in his shoe, he set out for a new life in the United States. After six years of playing fiddle in a Kansas City country western club, Shoji moved to Nashville, where he became part of "The David Houston Show." From there he moved on to "The Grand Ole Opry." Playing with Shoji in his Beulaville concert will be Carlton James, Jimmy Sasser and his band.

School Board Names Principal, Bus Drivers

Preparations for the 1981-82 school year occupied the Duplin County Board of Education last week as it appointed a principal for Chinquapin II (kindergarten through third grade) School, named 137 school bus drivers and awarded an accident insurance contract. Thomasine Kennedy, a lifelong resident of Chinquapin, was named principal of Chinquapin II. Mrs. Kennedy was born in 1947, the year that L.J. Sutton, the retiring principal, accepted the position. She has taught social studies at East Duplin High School near Beulaville for 12 years. She received her bachelor's degree from East Carolina University in 1969 and Master's in 1981. Superintendent C.H. Yelverton said the number of bus driving nominees equals the number of school buses in the system. Some substitute drivers will have to be nominated later. He said names of the drivers are sent to the state superintendent's office which has their driving records checked for approval.

The insurance contract was awarded to Standard Life Insurance Co. which had the contract last year. Coverage for each student during school hours will cost \$9 per student. Students desiring 24-hour coverage for accidents will pay \$39. The bid of Raymond Ezzell of Wallace of \$16,016.16 for the 1,320-square-foot house built by the Wallace-Rose Hill High School vocational classes was accepted. Ezzell will have to move the house from the school site within 30 days. The board approved a motion to require additional emphasis on patriotic songs and their origins and the national and state flags. Board Chairman Graham Phillips has been urging greater student participation in accounting classes because almost regardless of the field a student will enter, accounting will be valuable. The board voted to award a business certificate to students who complete business courses, such as typing, accounting, shorthand, direct office occupations,

business mathematics, advanced typing, simulated training and introduction to business. The board also decided to have business mathematics offered to juniors and seniors as well as sophomores. Accounting and business math will count as required math courses. A resolution stating the board of education holds title to three cars, one van, 17 trucks and five pieces of heavy equipment was approved. As an elected body, the board resolved to set its own policy on use of school vehicles. That came in response to a county program requiring all county-owned vehicles, except those assigned to law enforcement officers, be left in designated motor pools when not in use for county business. The board agreed to study its motor vehicle policies to see if any savings could be achieved.

Duplin General Hospital Is Hot

The air conditioning system in Duplin General Hospital failed last week on Tuesday for the second time in less than a month. The failure allowed room temperatures to top 80 degrees, Administrator Richard Harrell reported. He said patients, their

relatives and the hospital had obtained fans to improve room air circulation. The hospital had 47 patients Friday. It has 100 beds. Harrell said it would be late this week before the General Electric Co. in Charlotte could have the burned-out motor for the chiller unit

of the air conditioning system rewired and back to Kenansville. He said the motor weighs 6,500 pounds. The hospital does not have a back-up system because of the cost, Harrell said. He estimated a back-up system would cost \$100,000.



KEEP ON TRUCKING - This truck is not headed to the Faison Produce Market, but to a disposal site to destroy marijuana valued at \$25,000 uprooted near Beulaville. Duplin County Sheriff's Department, assisted by the Beulaville Police Department, discovered and destroyed a marijuana field near Beulaville Friday. Workers uprooted some 400 mature plants averaging six feet tall or better.

Deputies indicated the field had been half harvested. Marijuana at street value of about \$25,000 had been taken from the field. The small pickup load of green plants pictured above was taken to a dump site, soaked with kerosene and burned. The investigation as to the owner or harvester is continuing. Deputy W.A. King is pictured with the truckload of marijuana.



Opening Night At The Liberty Cart
July 17
Don't Miss It This Year!