

# Happy New Year

# Duplin Times

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## Duplin Board Clears Way For Freezer Plant

Another major step toward development of a large freezer warehouse at Wallace came last week when the Duplin County Board of Commissioners relinquished its interest in a non-profit financing corporation.

The commissioners transferred the county's control to the company planning to build the freezer facility.

The board also set a special meeting for Thursday Dec. 29 at 11:30 a.m. to complete paper work in preparation for offering up to \$4.5 million in tax-exempt bonds to finance the facility. To obtain the tax-exempt status, the county had to set up the non-profit corporation.

D.J. Fussell of Rose Hill, a long-time member of the board, resigned as chairman, saying he could express himself better and serve more effectively as a regular member of the board than as chairman.

W.J. Costin, vice chairman, was elected chairman and Allen Nethercutt was chosen vice chairman.

The board approved inclusion of Warsaw in the

major customer of the freezer warehouse. Officials have indicated access to such a facility may increase the turkey production potential of the region and the turkey export potential through the port of Wilmington.

In other commission business, Nathan Whaley was appointed county landfill director at a salary of \$16,498 a year. He had been acting director since the resignation of David Underhill three months ago at a salary of \$14,463 plus \$1,400 in overtime pay.

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county building inspection program at the request of the city.

The board decided to consider the possibility of asking the General Assembly for authority to garnishee the wages of people who fail to pay ambulance fees in the county.

The county only collects about 60 percent of its ambulance charges each year, emergency services coordinator Hiram Brinson said. From January through September, Brinson said, county rescue squads billed 1,894 ambulance users a total of \$69,163.71. He estimated about \$42,000 of that has been collected.

Brinson said the percentage was about the same last year. While rescue squad members are volunteers, the county furnishes ambulances and most other equipment to all but the Faison squad. A fee of \$25 per call is charged for service within the county. The county charges \$50 plus

\$1.50 per mile driven outside Duplin County for ambulance runs that cross county lines.

Action on a request of use of the county senior citizens building on Thursday nights by the Duplin chapter of the Duplicate Bridge Club was delayed pending further study. Walter Brown, director of aging and nutrition, said some of the senior citizens feel it is morally wrong to play cards of any kind.

County Manager Ralph Cottle expressed concern about allowing a private club to use a public building free of charge.

Following a request by Joe Costin of Warsaw to have a memorial statue honoring nation's war dead built on the courthouse grounds, the board appointed a study committee of Costin, Cottle, Frank Moore and Sonny Sykes of Kenansville to report on the matter next year.



FOUNDATION BOARD REPORTS PROGRESS IN FUND DRIVE - Artist Malcolm Williams, left, paints in goal lines

as Rob Lee and Tom Yates direct.

## Foundation Board Reports

## Progress In Fund Drive

The James Sprint Foundation Board of Directors met Dec. 16 to wind up James Sprint Technical College's first fund drive. The board, chaired by Tom Yates, had set a goal of \$10,000. The goal has been met and funds are still coming in.

Yates stated that the Board had done an outstanding job in this first fund raising effort and were to be commended. He also expressed appreciation to the citizens and businesses in the county who contributed.

Rob Lee, treasurer, stated that a final accounting of all

donations would be done in January when all pledges and contributions were in and that it appeared that the Foundation had not only met but were probably going to exceed their goal. These funds will be used for scholarships and to improve the instructional programs of the college.

Dr. Carl Price, president, expressed his appreciation to the people of Duplin County for their support and stated that anyone still wishes to make a contribution, they should contact him or Donna Thigpen, executive director of the Foundation at JSTC, 296-1341.

## Murphy Has Ideas

## But Won't Create 'Big Waves'

Duplin's newly-elected state Rep. Wendell Murphy says he doesn't expect to "make big waves" during his first legislative session next year.

Murphy said he is particularly interested in seeing shorter legislative sessions. He also said he wants to look into the state's drunken driving problem, into lobbying practices and into possible measures to reduce the danger of high-powered rifles in the hands of careless hunters.

"I need to get my feet wet before I can make definite statements on what should be done," Murphy said.

"However, I think the legislature stays in session too long. I think the state's business can be done in a shorter time," he added.

One possibility he suggested looking into is delaying the opening of the session to the spring when more information on the state's income outlook is available.

The Duplin County agricultural businessman will represent Duplin and Jones counties. He defeated two-term Rep. Douglas Clark in the Democratic primary and was un-



roads east of Rose Hill.

"Some sort of effort should be made to bring this problem under control, but I want to be careful. . . I don't have a point blank answer. I need more information from hunters and the wildlife people."

He is optimistic about the possibility of a freezer warehouse being built at Wallace and about its potential for boosting the area's poultry and possibly

hog industries.

Murphy feels more effort should be made to export U.S. grain in the form of meat and meat products.

He is adamant about two things. "I won't ever vote for a tobacco tax and I won't go up there and vote for a legislative pay raise," Murphy said.

"I intend to apply the same principles to state government that I apply to this business," he added.

## Tobacco Lease Rates Discussed

Per Acre (2,100 Pounds)	Lease plus 5 cents per pound interest	-----
Planted Field (Fertilizer, Chemicals, Cover Crop)	\$34.30	
Curing Fuel & Electricity	\$284.21	
Warehouse Charges, Tobacco Associates	\$300.00	99.60
Grading, Stabilization	76.65	
Fuel, Lube, Repairs (Mechanical Harvester)	\$233.56	
Crop and Building Insurance	\$182.82	
Labor	\$547.00	
Ownership (Depreciation)	\$350.00	
Capital (Interest)	\$350.95	

fact, each individual farmer's costs may differ. It is best to figure your own costs and returns.

If we divide total cost of \$2,439.50 (excluding lease) by 2,100 pounds, we arrive at a per pound production price of \$1.16 per pound. Assuming the crop averaged \$1.78 per pound, we can subtract the production costs and arrive at a figure of \$.62, which will have to cover our lease, plus interest on any money borrowed for lease, and any profit. Keep in mind that these are 1982 figures and 1983 costs may differ. In