

Duplin Invests In 30 - Day Notes

The investment of \$1 million in 30-day notes at 11.4 percent interest will net Duplin County \$9,500 in the next month.

County Finance Officer Russell Tucker informed the county commissioners last week that he had invested \$1 million of county funds in 30-day notes with Branch Banking & Trust Co. of Wallace.

Tucker said he had been advised to invest in the short-term notes instead of nine-month certificates because interest rates are expected to increase, possibly to 15 percent by the end of the year.

Tucker also said the county might

need some of the money in less than nine months. The longer-term certificates usually pay higher rates of interest than 30-day notes issued at the same time.

In other business last week, the commissioners reversed their Aug. 6 decision against providing part of the salary for a secretary in the county extension office. By a 3-2 vote, the board agreed to provide \$4,500 a year for half the salary of the secretary. Commissioner Calvin Coolidge Turner switched sides and joined Commissioners W.J. Costin and Dovie Penney in a favorable vote. Commissioners D.J. Fussell

and Allan Nethercutt again voted against the salary motion.

The board agreed to permit the county Agribusiness Council and other groups to conduct a study into renovating the former Kenansville Elementary School as a multi-purpose building.

Merle Creech, a member of the county arts council, said it has requested \$92,800 from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation to provide part of the financing for an entrance and staging area in the old building.

Roy Houston, chairman of the Agribusiness Council, said the council could pay for the study, "if the commissioners are inclined to support the project."

Melba Laney, a community development specialist with the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development, recommended that the building be renovated for county offices. She had no cost estimates. The board will study the proposals.

She recommended moving the Employment Security Commission into the present N.C. Highway Patrol office when that office is moved into the former Coastal Production Credit Association building. Both offices now are in a building near the E.E. Smith School on the south side of Kenansville.

Her other recommendations included:

- Moving the agricultural extension service, Farmers Home Ad-

ministration, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service and Soil Conservation Service into the renovated school building to create an agricultural services complex.

• Moving the Social Services Department offices now in the Quinn Annex on Kenansville's main street to the present ASCS location, near the main social services building.

• Remodeling the present extension and FmHA offices into a county administration office unit for the county manager, finance officer, board of commissioners, industrial development commission and arts council.

In other business, the board authorized advertising for a county forest ranger to succeed Dennis Knowles. It decided not to establish voter registration tables in the social services building and the library because they are close to the county election office in the courthouse, where people can register all year.

Voice Lessons & Coaching

Donna E. Williamson

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Contempt Charge Against Rose Hill Man Dropped

Contempt of court charges against Rose Hill developer Marlo Bostic and three co-defendants were dismissed last week in Onslow County Superior Court.

Superior Court Judge Herbert O. Phillips granted a defense motion to dismiss the charges against Bostic, Garland E. Yopp and Frank H. Lanier and his construction company, Frank H. Lanier Inc.

The charges stemmed from construction of two buildings near New River Inlet Pier.

Allen Brown, representing Onslow County, contended that the defendants received notice of a July 6 restraining order and acted in concert to continue construction. Brown also charged that Bostic and Yopp tried to circumvent the order by transferring ownership on July 10.

Much of the testimony concerned cease-and-desist orders federal and state agencies had issued on the basis that the builders did not have the required permits.

In dismissing the charges, Phillips noted that a temporary restraining order relating to a county building permit was a "different" kind of document from a cease-and-desist order issued by a government agency.

He said he had seen ample evidence regarding the delivery of cease-and-desist orders, but that did not constitute evidence of willful criminal violation of the temporary restraining order.

In addition, he said, proof had not been shown beyond a reasonable doubt that a design and purpose lay behind the transfer of the pier's title from Bostic to Yopp.

George W. Wright of the Army Corps of Engineers testified that he had issued nine cease-and-desist orders against Bostic for various projects since January 1976.

"We have never issued Marlo Bostic a permit except for an after-the-fact permit," he said.

Representatives of the N.C. Office of Coastal Management testified that that agency had served Bostic with 11 cease-and-desist orders since 1981.

Onslow County Building Inspector

Marshall Batchelor testified that he issued a permit to Bostic May 25 for repair of the pier for the purpose of installing an ice machine. Batchelor said he was at West Onslow Beach after the permit was issued and observed building that was "way out of proportion" with the permit.

On June 27, he said, he issued a stop-work order and hand-delivered it to Yopp, who was the pier manager.

He said the construction continued, however, and Bostic called him a couple of days later and told him the "discrepancies" would be corrected. "He's never spoken to me since," Batchelor said.

Batchelor said he visited the pier on July 9, 10, 12 and 13 and saw construction going on. He said he talked with Lanier, the contractor, about the stop-work order and Lanier said he "knew something but didn't know what" it was about.

Wedding Invitation

The children of Lura Catherine Jones request the honour of your presence at the marriage of their mother to Mr. Andrew Mills Rose of Kinston, N.C. on Saturday, September 8 at four o'clock in the First Pentecostal Holiness Church, 711 Phillips Road, Kinston, N.C. The officiating pastor will be the Rev. W.J. Forehand. A reception will be held immediately following the ceremony in the church fellowship hall. Friends and relatives are invited to attend. No invitations are being mailed.

CAPITAL KIDS

During the 1983-84 school year, 86 high school students and teachers from eight foreign nations came to Washington, D.C., to learn more about the American system of government through a two-week program taught by the Close Up Foundation. With the help of a grant from R.J. Reynolds Industries, Inc., the international students also spent time in New York City and Williamsburg, Va. ▲

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