



Commissioners Endorse Aid To Two Businesses

Requests for state economic development grants totaling \$300,000 were approved by the Duplin County Board of Commissioners last week.

Two industries asked the county for the funds to expand their plants. The requests will go to the N.C. Department of Commerce for approval. If they get the money, the companies will repay it with interest.

Duplin Manufacturing Co. of Warsaw asked for a \$200,000 grant. It would repay the county the \$200,000 over 10 years at 7 percent interest. The company also plans to borrow \$300,000 from Branch Bank & Trust Co. for its expansion.

county over 12 years at 6 percent interest with the initial payment deferred for 18 months.

Commissioner Allen Nethercutt said, "Not only do we want to keep our industry going in the county, we

The proposed project would create 101 new jobs and double the size of the facility from 12,250 square feet to 24,500. The company makes children's sportswear.

Bell & Sons of Calypso asked for \$100,000. It plans to increase production to 2,000 dozen T-shirts and baseball jerseys a week. The firm employs 23 people and would hire 15. The firm proposed to repay the

want to keep you growing as well."

In other business, the board approved \$6,372 for extension of water and sewer lines from Beulaville to N.C. Hydraulics Manufacturing Co. just outside the city limits. The company is expanding its plant. Emmett Wickline, the owner, said the company paid \$6,850.68 in county taxes last year on its valuation of \$913,424.

The board appropriated \$2,000 for the Magnolia branch of the county library system. Mayor Ruth Quinn of Magnolia asked for help to purchase a library building for \$7,600. Magnolia can apply \$1,500 of the appropriation to the purchase and \$500 to equipment.

John Michaud, county librarian, said he does not consider the Magnolia branch a wise development. It will mean splitting county library resources even more, he said. Michaud said the main library in Kenansville circulated 43,337 books last year compared with 34,238 in the preceding year.

The board appropriated \$19,221 to complete paving of the airport runway. The paving was incomplete when the contractor went bankrupt. Cost of completion has been estimated at \$39,095. The county received \$12,750 from the contractor's bonding company. It has \$7,123 it reserved from the contract. The work will proceed as soon as the county receives state approval.

Frank Moore, tax supervisor, said Carolina Power & Light Co. will compare its tax valuations with those of other property owners as the county prepares its revaluation, required every eight years. The company wants to determine if its yearly valuations by the state compare reasonably with the octennial valuations of other property.

Two Duplin County Men Admit Assault And Trespassing

Two Duplin County men received active prison sentences last week after pleading guilty in Brunswick County Superior Court at Bolivia to trespassing and felony assault charges.

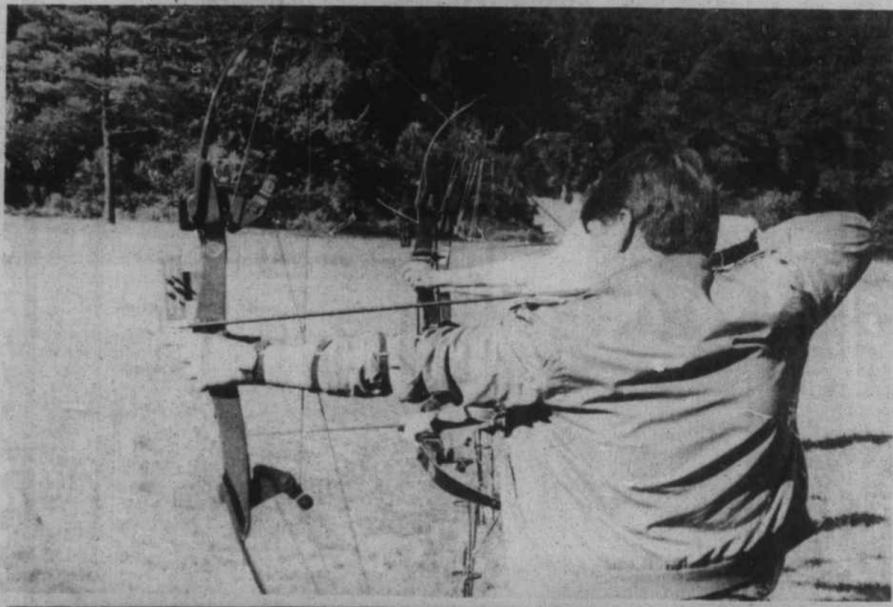
David Winford Wasson of Rose Hill and Joseph N. Bradshaw of Wallace had been charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill, inflicting serious injury, and first-degree burglary. Wasson was also charged with assault on a female, and Bradshaw was also charged with assault with a

deadly weapon.

In a plea arrangement, Wasson pleaded guilty to forcible trespassing, assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and simple assault. He received a three-year sentence, with all but 180 days suspended.

Bradshaw pleaded guilty to forcible trespassing, assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury and simple assault. He was given a three-year sentence, with all but 180 days suspended.

Duplin Agribusiness Fair October 1-6



Hunter Safety Emphasized At Fair Through Contest

The second annual Duplin Schools Hunter Safety Shooting Tournament was held at Turkey Stadium at the county fairgrounds in Kenansville last week. The tournament was sponsored by the North Carolina Department of Wildlife and Duplin County schools. Contestants participated in trap-shooting and archery. Individual winners of the bow competition were Tony Westbrook, champion from East Duplin High School; Chris Swanda, second place from Warsaw Jr. High School; Zollie Kornegay, third place from East Duplin.

Trap-shooting winners included Jimmy Barnette, champion from James Kenan High School; Owen Rouse, second place from Wallace-Rose Hill High School; Zollie Kornegay, third place and Mitchell Smith, fourth place, both from East Duplin. Overall tournament competition was won by Zollie Kornegay and second place was Mitchell Smith, both of East Duplin, and third place went to Jimmy Barnette of James Kenan. Pictured above are scenes from the shooting tournament.



I-40 Contracts To Be Let

Governor Jim Hunt stopped outside Warsaw last week to announce new funding to be used in completing I-40. The \$16.7 million will cut five years from the planned completion date and bring the finished four-lane highway from Wilmington to NC 117 south of Warsaw within the next two years. When completed to NC 117 near Warsaw, Hunt said, I-40 would be opened to traffic from that point to Wilmington. Contracts to

complete the Duplin segment between NC 117 south of Warsaw to Teachey will be let next month and March of 1985. Work is currently in progress on 39.2 miles of I-40 from Wallace to Wilmington. Governor Hunt is pictured above after the Wednesday announcement accepting a gift from the Duplin Agribusiness Council. Representative Wendell Murphy of Rose Hill is pictured with Governor Hunt.

Students To Make Up Days

Duplin County students will have to make up two days lost while Hurricane Diana blew through the area Sept. 12 and 13.

The Board of Education decided last week that students should report to school Tuesday and Jan. 22 — two days originally designated as teacher work days.

Sept. 12 and 13 were declared teacher work days so teachers would not lose any pay.

The board had previously decided to excuse East Duplin High School students from making up Sept. 14 when their school remained closed because of flooded roads.

According to state law, schools can be closed up to five days a year without makeup days. School systems in Pender, New Hanover, Columbus and Brunswick counties and Whiteville chose not to make up days missed because of the storm.

In other action, the school board decided that James Sprunt Technical College may conduct night or week-

end classes in Wallace-Rose Hill High School.

The board's action will resolve a space problem JSTC has encountered in conducting extension classes in the Wallace area. It could pave the way for use of other school facilities for such classes at times when the schools are not holding regular classes.

JSTC officials last month asked to use the school. Wallace-Rose Hill Principal Harold W. Brewer and JSTC officials will decide on specific rooms to be used.

"This is a new thing. We don't know if it will work but we think it will," said Superintendent L.S. Guy.

James F. Strickland, a member of the school board and the JSTC Board of Trustees, said: "I'm overwhelmed at the cooperation between the school system and James Sprunt. In many places it hasn't worked."

Because JSTC will be able to use computers in the high school in addition to its own, JSTC will provide the school five additional

computers to compensate for possible damage to the equipment. JSTC will provide five additional electric typewriters for the high school's typing and keyboard laboratory under the same conditions.

JSTC will have a non-teaching administrator on hand at all times the school is being used by the college. The college also will provide a person to clean the area the college courses use. It will not use any supplies bought by the high school.

JSTC will formally notify the Duplin County Commissioners that its use of the high school might increase utility costs at the school.

In other action, the board: — Amended its budget to accept \$7,000 from the Wallace Parent Teacher Organization to hire a physical education aide at the Wallace Elementary school.

— Changed its meeting time to 7:30 p.m. starting Oct. 16. The mid-October meeting meeting will be at the B.F. Grady School.

Beulaville Buys Park Option

At the October meeting, Beulaville Commissioners authorized the expenditure of \$1,300 to purchase the option on three acres of property off Parker St. to be used as a park.

The park is part of the Wickline Community Development Block Grant local option improvements. The grant contains \$70,000 in local option funds designated for use in street paving, repair and drainage and the construction of a park in the southern portion of the town of Beulaville. A motion to purchase the three acres off Parker St. for use as a park was passed at the August meeting of the Beulaville Commissioners. The total cost of the park property is \$13,000.

Beulaville Commissioners voted unanimously to return \$150,000 to a certificate of deposit. The funds were deposited with United Carolina Bank

of Beulaville at an interest rate of 11 percent for a 90-day period.

After meeting in executive session, the Beulaville Commissioners granted town clerk Carol Miller a salary increase. Commissioners emphasized Miller's position as town office manager and authorized an 18 percent raise. Both town office employees had previously been receiving the same amount in wages. The motion to grant Miller the salary increase was approved by Commissioners S.A. Blizzard, Frank Boyette and Joe Edwards. Commissioner Rabon Maready did not vote and Commissioner Elvis Sumner voted against the salary increase.

Commissioners voted to change the town employees' pay/work week from Monday-Friday to Thursday-Wednesday. The new schedule will be established by one four-day week

in October and November. Town employees will continue to be paid on Friday. The new work and pay week was established to allow town office employees a day's time to write the salary checks.

The subdivision zoning regulations were presented during a public hearing October 25, but no Beulaville citizens attended. Opposing the motion to accept the subdivision regulations was Commissioner Sumner.

The Board approved a motion to draft letters to owners of abandoned lots in the town of Beulaville. The letter will ask owners to comply with the town ordinance to clean up and maintain their lots. In the event the lots are not cleaned and mowed, Commissioners agreed to have town employees maintain property and bill the services to the owner.

Faison Board

Appoints Squirrel Warden

Squirrels! Squirrels! Squirrels! Faison citizens will soon have relief!

For several months Faison town commissioners have been burdened with complaints from local citizens about the squirrel population boom and the destructive force of the little animals. During the meeting of the Faison town board October 5th, a squirrel warden was appointed to dispose of the 'pesty animals.'

When squirrel season opens later this month, Faison public works superintendent Fred Wheless has been appointed by town commissioners to dispose of the pestiferous and attic-tenant animals, Faison citizens requesting the squirrel warden's assistance should contact the town hall.

Multi-water meter rates were set by the board. During the September meeting of the board, a list of 44 customers on 17 water meters was presented to Faison commissioners. Each meter carrying more than one water user was billed only one minimum fee.

Faison commissioners unanimously adopted minimum rates for each user on the multi-meters at the meeting last week. Users on the multi-meters have the option to install their own individual meter under the provision approved by the Faison commissioner setting minimum fees. The rates become effective with the November 1 billing.

On a three to two vote, Faison commissioners also increased fees for water to out-of-town customers. Water rates for Faison citizens and customers beyond the city limits were the same until the 25 percent increase was approved last week. Town administrator Neil Mallory told the Faison commissioners, out-of-town water customers are normally charged double rates. Commissioners Melvin Rogers and Jane Hollingsworth opposed the motion.

An ordinance creating a Faison Cemetery Board of Trustees was passed by town commissioners. Four members were appointed, Jane

Hollingsworth, William Thompson, Rachel Clifton and Ann Taylor.

The town of Faison will hold a public hearing on what is needed to comply with handicap regulations. Mallory told Commissioners the compliance should be reviewed and action completed by 1986 in order for the town to continue receiving federal revenue sharing funds. Dates for the public hearing were not announced at the meeting.

Commissioner Rogers reported \$2,100 had been generated in revenue from the sale of water to farmers this year. Last year, Rogers said, only \$700 was collected from the sale of water for agricultural use.

To maintain the two blocks along the railroad in the middle of the town of Faison, Commissioners approved the purchase of new mower and the hiring of a part-time person. Commissioners approved approximately \$400 to purchase the mower and hiring the part-time help only during the grass-cutting season.