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Promotion exercises for the 8th grade class of Pamlico Junior High School were held Wednesday, June 9. The 136 students were presented their certificates by PJHS principal Gerald Saunders

and Pamlico schools superintendent George Brinson.

Class valedictorian was James Mason and salutatorian was Allison Jocelyn Frost.

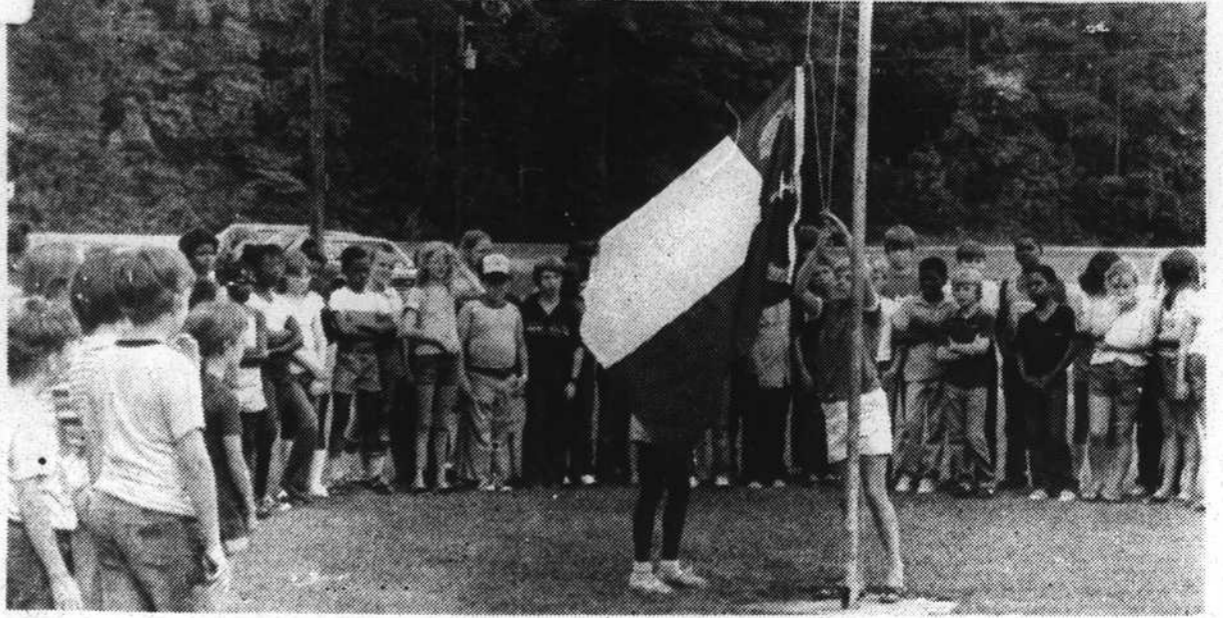
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Fourth graders at Fred Anderson School in Bayboro presented a new North Carolina flag to the school in a brief ceremony held on Monday, June 6.

Olinka Burley (left) and Kim Lupton had the honor of raising the new flag while fellow classmates looked on.

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Allocation Of Towns' Monies Examined

With less than a month to go before the end of the current fiscal year, local municipal governments have been hard at work preparing their budgets for 1983-84. At the time of this writing, only one town, Arapahoe, had approved its budget for the coming year although others were scheduled to take the matter up this week. It appears that the budgets, for the most part, will be similar to those of 1982-83. However, as many have incorporated revenue sharing funds into their budgets, some changes will be necessary should the program not be renewed. Taxes in the towns will remain the same.

What each town does with its revenues varies, from minimal services to those unusual for a small town. Revenues come from such sources as ad valorem taxes (the towns of Alliance and Arapahoe do not collect any property taxes), franchise taxes, in-

intangibles taxes, beer and wine taxes, sales taxes, and other sources. Some, those with town-owned streets, receive Powell Bill funds which are used for the maintenance of such roads. Of the towns of Aurora, Vandemere, Alliance, Stonewall, Bayboro, Oriental, Mesic, and Minnesott Beach, only Alliance and Mesic do not receive Powell Bill funding.

In preparing their budgets, the towns receive information, some of it coming from the League of Municipalities, on how much of an increase or decrease they can expect in the revenues which they receive from the state. Such revenues include sales tax, intangibles tax, beer and wine taxes and franchise taxes. These monies would, for the most part, be returned to the county should the towns not be in existence.

AURORA

The town of Aurora, in its preliminary budget, expects revenues of \$144,255 this year. Property taxes will bring in, hopefully, about \$34,000, the Powell Bill funds \$15,000 and sales taxes \$21,350. Aurora also receives revenues from rent of public buildings: the Community Center, the Medical Center, the Dental Center, and Civic Center. The town had hoped to receive at least \$38,000 in revenues from this source during the current year but now estimates that income will only be about \$31,600. \$30,000 has been budgeted for the 1983-84 year.

Information on Aurora's estimated expenditures for the coming year was unavailable. Finance Officer Sandra Bonner said that she expected the board to make major changes at the meeting which was scheduled for Monday night, June 13.

BAYBORO

Bayboro plans to operate on a slightly lower budget this year than in previous years. This year's budget expected \$109,599 in revenues, however, it is estimated that only \$100,228 will be received by June 30, 1983, the end of the fiscal year. The town will be making appropriations from the fund balance and Powell Bill fund balance in order to be able to meet expenses for the coming year. Over \$27,000, or 28 percent of the expected revenues of \$96,813, will go towards salaries. The main sources of revenue are ad valorem taxes, \$21,122 anticipated; franchise taxes, \$12,930; Powell Bill, \$13,307; and investment earnings, \$10,100.

For a recreation complex, \$15,500 has been set aside. The budget also provides for a part-time police officer although there

is no one currently serving in that capacity.

By far the largest expenditures are for sanitation, street lights and street maintenance which take 41 percent, or \$40,305, of anticipated revenues.

MINNESOTT BEACH

The revenues expected this year for Minnesott Beach are down slightly from the current year. Revenues for 1983-84 total \$24,460 while expenses are expected to be \$32,490. Minnesott provides garbage collection for the residents and that is one expense which has risen dramatically in recent years, from an actual cost of \$451 for 1981-82 to \$1,630 for 1982-83. The salaries for public workemployees alone constitute 24 percent of the revenues expected.

The town also provides water

with revenues from water sales, meter installations, etc. expected to generate \$28,600. But expenses are estimated to be \$29,450 for the coming year.

ORIENTAL

Oriental, during 1983-84, expects to take in \$109,450 in revenues primarily from property taxes (\$43,500), franchise taxes (\$11,000), interest income (\$11,000) and Powell Bill funds (\$16,000). In order to meet the expenses, a fund balance appropriation of \$4,500 has been included. Salaries for administrative and public works employees and the police department total \$25,900, 23 percent of the general fund revenues. Of the \$61,450 water department budget, salaries (\$9,000) account for 14 percent of the total.

(See BUDGETS page 12)

Two Cents' Tax Hike Planned For Beaufort County

In order to meet the needs for the coming year, the Beaufort County Board of Commissioners, during their meeting on Tuesday, June 7, approved a tentative budget for the 1983-84 fiscal year which includes an increase in the tax rate from 45 cents per \$100 of property to 47 cents, stating that they were pleased to be able to hold the increase down to that amount and still provide the level of services the residents of the county expect.

In presenting a budget incorporating changes discussed at earlier budget workshops, County Manager Jay Hodges told the board that \$4,000 had been deleted from the amount requested by the sheriff's department for training for deputies and civilian employees.

For the fire departments, to be distributed by the fire commission, \$137,500 has been included in the budget.

Solid waste is funded out of Revenue Sharing funds, Hodges explained. "If it falls through," he said, "we'll have to use (funds from) the surplus...but I have a feeling it will be carried over."

Prior to budget discussions, the board approved capital outlay requests, to be paid for with this year's funds, for the health department, stipulating, however, that the funds for 1983-84 be reduced by a similar amount, \$3,000. Health Department Director Dr. Boone Mora had told the board at an earlier meeting, when requesting funds for a new air conditioning system, that he had no money available in the current year's budget with which to help with the cost of the new air conditioning system. The board felt that the money the health department wished to transfer to use for the purchase of filling system components could have been used for the air conditioning system.

The health department also requested \$32,000 for the purchase of four new vans. The board was

reduced to \$16,000 for two cars. \$2,400 requested for the purchase of radios for two cars will have to be obtained out of the \$17,655 allocated for capital outlay.

The board left in \$2,500 for a microcomputer system for the Beaufort County Extension Service as the state will purchase the rest of the system.

Funds for a position now vacant in the extension office were put into the contingency fund.

The schools will be receiving the capital outlay funds they requested plus the board will be putting one and a quarter million dollars into a capital reserve fund for the future needs of both school systems. The commissioners emphasized the fact that the amount going into this fund may vary from year to year. Last year, \$500,000 was set aside for it.

Beaufort County Community College will be receiving \$14,000 less than they had requested, according to the revised budget, and funding for Tideland Mental Health was also reduced, from \$77,000 to \$70,000.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Beaufort County Animal Control Officer Buck Andrews appeared before the board requesting that an emergency rabies vaccination clinic be held in August. Less than forty percent of the county's dogs have been vaccinated against rabies, Andrews said, basing his estimation on the fact that less than forty percent of the dogs that bit someone (of those reported to him) had been vaccinated. The state, he added, has said that an area might be able to effectively control a rabies outbreak if at least sixty percent are vaccinated. In response to a question from Ledrue Buck, chairman of the board of commissioners, Buck replied that he investigated about 15 bite reports each month "and we don't know the half of them." Andrews said that he planned, if

the board approved, to set up several clinic sites in each township. The cost for vaccination is tentatively set at \$5. He said that he hoped the clinics would raise the percentage of protected animals at 60.

Andrews commented that it is illegal, at the present time, for an unlicensed person to administer rabies vaccine, adding that it

\$100,000 Lawsuit Filed Against Beaufort Sheriff

A \$100,000 lawsuit has been filed in federal court against Beaufort County and Sheriff Nelson Sheppard.

Virgil Moore, states the suit, is asking for the money for the mental and physical pain and suffering he alleges to have been the victim of following an incident late last year during which he sustained injuries to a foot. Moore was shot during a break-in into the

could be dangerous if administered incorrectly.

The board approved the clinics and asked Andrews to present the details at the July meeting. The commissioners are also requesting that all animal owners cooperate.

Renovations to the county jail, which originally were to have cost less than \$20,000 will now, because

No Decision Yet In Mesic Situation

The Mesic situation has not yet been resolved, Senator Joseph Thomas said Monday, although he hopes that the legislative delegation will be able to meet this week to discuss it.

What has become known locally as the "Mesic Mess" grew out of a number of property owners' contention that the town was not properly incorporated and therefore could not legally collect their taxes. They maintain that they were not informed that their property was to be included within the town's boundaries.

The dispute has ended up in court once already and recently

the area's legislators were approached by the discontented property owners, requesting that the town boundaries be changed to exclude the majority of their properties.

The Mesic Board of Commissioners has stated that they do not wish for the town limits to be changed.

Thomas said that he had hoped a compromise would have been reached by now. "It's not an easy situation to deal with," he commented. The legislature's current session ends around the first week in July.

of design changes, cost about \$67,000 for the first floor.

Commissioner Mrs. Arthur Lee Moore said that she believed the board should set a limit on what

Blue Mold Spotted In Pamlico County

Blue mold, being found in tobacco fields in the state, has also been spotted in a bed at the Pamlico County-Craven County boundary.

As of the end of last week, the disease had been found only on tobacco plants which had not been treated, said Fred May, chairman of the Pamlico County Extension Service.

Conditions have been perfect recently for the development of blue mold, explained May—cool, often foggy, mornings, cool nights and humid, overcast days.

Farmers who have not previously treated their tobacco plants for blue mold can now apply Ridomil by layby application, incorporating the chemical into the soil on both sides of the row. The application rate for Ridomil, said May, is one quart per acre. Other foliar fungicides are also available.

May stressed the fact that Ridomil should not be applied to the foliage. N. C. State University plant pathologists have found, he said, that foliar application can lead to the development of a resistant strain of blue mold.

OTHER PROBLEMS

Those raising beans (green, lima or soy), potatoes, peppers, tobacco and tomatoes should also be on the lookout for Southern Stem Rot, said May, a soil fungus which causes the plant stem to rot at soil level.

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they will spend on the structure which is being renovated for county office space. The county board plans for those involved in the per-

(See TAX HIKE page 12)

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fungus has been known to exist, he said, make sure that all plant residue is buried. Although a relatively weak fungus, if southern stem rots gets a start on old residue, it can quickly spread to healthy plants, May added.

Black rot and black leg, plant borne-soil borne diseases which strike cabbage plants, have also been found in the county. Once the soil is infested there is no treatment, May said, and the diseases may remain active as long as crop residue is available.

Farmers should make sure they obtain plants certified as disease-free. May said the infested plants he has seen were non-certified and were shipped in from Florida.

The diseases reduce the shelf-life of the cabbage, thereby decreasing its desirability.

Clubfoot can also affect members of the cabbage family (collards, broccoli, cauliflower and, of course, cabbage) although May said he has not yet seen evidence of it in home gardens, the most likely places for it to be found.

The fungus, which causes knots on the roots of the plants, will make the area infested useless for growing any members of the cabbage family. Clubfoot can remain in the soil for seven years.

Gardeners wishing to raise these should get their plants from a reputable dealer so that the fungus will not be spread from one home garden to another