

New County Office Building Could Cost \$5 Million

BY RYNE R. MARTIN
CANTON — The county will need to spend approximately \$5 million to construct a new office building to meet the county's future space needs, architects told the St. Lawrence County Legislature Monday night.

Arthur R. Kaplan, a partner with the Albany firm of Einhorn Yaffee Prescott Architecture and En-

neering, P.C., said it will cost between \$4.76 million and \$5.78 million to construct a new building with approximately 35,000 square feet behind the existing county courthouse.

That proposal gained widespread support from county legislators. The county legislature turned down options calling for the construction of a new facility in the existing north parking lot and a proposal

calling for building the new structure adjacent to the present underground Emergency Operating Center, which is located across the street from the historic courthouse.

Kaplan acknowledged he personally felt the proposal to build a new two-story building behind the existing courthouse made the most sense for county officials. He said he was concerned with any prop-

osal that could harm the architectural integrity of the stone courthouse.

That plan also calls for an additional 30 parking spots for the courthouse complex. But Kaplan acknowledged the construction of a new facility in the courtyard behind the existing courthouse would cause the most disruption for employees working in offices in the

county courthouse. The county legislature's selection of an option now allows the architectural firm to refine the proposal over the next three to four weeks. "We will present a final report in three to four weeks and then we can talk about bonding," he said.

The county legislature's decision to have the architectural firm refine their proposal does not mean that new office space will be built at the courthouse.

County officials will need to authorize spending funds for the project before the new office space becomes a reality.

If county officials select an option shortly, Kaplan said construction will begin in the spring of 1990 and the new office building should be completed by the spring or summer of 1992.

The plan calls for central services and purchasing to be located in the basement of the new structure; the District Attorney's Office and Family Court on the first floor; and the County Courtroom and county court clerk's office, planning and forestry and the Real Property Tax Office on the second floor.

The Board of Elections would be relocated to the Surrogate Court building, while the Surrogate Court

facilities would move to the second floor of the existing courthouse along with the Office for the Aging and Data Processing.

The Personnel Office and the Civil Department of the St. Lawrence County Sheriff's Department would be placed in the basement of the existing courthouse in space presently occupied by the Real Property Tax Office. The Probation Department would move to the first floor in space presently occupied by the county court complex.

Legislator Donald F. Smith (D-Louisville) was the sole lawmaker to oppose the selection of the option. County officials have been studying a need for additional space for several years.

But county officials were put under the gun when the Office for Court Administration ordered all counties to submit a plan detailing their proposal to meet state mandates for court space by Aug. 7.

County officials have said the county's present court facilities do not meet the state's requirements. Kaplan reminded legislators that if the county does not present a proposal to the state by Aug. 7, the Office for Court Administration has threatened to develop their own plan, build the additional space and then bill the county for the work.

Seaway Ship Held, Searched For Drugs

BY DENISE RAYMO
OGDENSBURG — United States Customs agents, who suspected drugs were being smuggled into the country from the Mediterranean, used police dogs to search a 600 foot ship docked in Ogdensburg Monday, but found nothing, accord-

ing to U.S. Customs Eastern District officials.

The Marjorie Lyke was docked at the Ogdensburg Port Monday while 16 government officers and two K-9 units from the Potsdam Police Department went aboard to look for drugs, according to Jeffrey Walgreen, the district spokesman.

"We had reason to suspect narcotics were being transported on the vessel," said Walgreen. "There was no contraband found, but we had reason to suspect that crew members manifested for the trip had prior drug records."

"They were not aboard the ship when it docked in Ogdensburg," he added. "The ship entered American

waters at Newport News, Virginia and was checked through customs.

However, an on-board search was not conducted "due to staffing problems," said Walgreen. "It continued on from Virginia and made stops in Montreal and went into Ogdensburg before we could conduct the search."

He said the officials had received information about the crew of the ship because the vessel had just returned from a three and a half month trip around the world.

"It had made stops in the Mediterranean and in India before coming to Newport News," he explained. "Those are known places for drug trafficking."

Teen Miss St. Lawrence Co.

The Miss St. Lawrence County Teen-Ager Pageant 1989 will be held at Massena Central High School on June 4 at 2 p.m. It is a preliminary to the Miss Teen-Ager Pageant of New York, where only local county/area winners can compete for the state title. Miss Teen-Ager of New York will then go to Florida to compete for the title of Miss Teen-Ager of the States, which is the national pageant.

Miss St. Lawrence County Teen-Ager Pageant is open to single girls between the ages of 13-18 as of Nov. 1, 1989, living or going to school in St. Lawrence County. A change in this year's pageant is that swim wear has been changed to sports wear. Details will be with the entry form. It is also planned to have the contestants in the parade in Massena on Saturday. Details with entry form may be obtained.

The day of the pageant is filled with excitement and fun as the girls practice a dance routine, which is for fun and is not judged. They also practice on stage, walks and turns, and how to enter and exit. Participants will be completely informed about everything the pageant consists of. The day is like a workshop getting ready for the competition, as well as being an exciting and fun experience for all participants.

The entry fee is \$50. Entry forms and sponsor's fees will have to be in by May 31. This allows enough time for the printed program. After entry forms and sponsor's fee are received, complete instructions and an official entry pass will be sent to each participant. Those wishing to participate are advised to send your entry in early.

Entry forms can be picked up at local schools. For more information write or call Ed Ackerman, Rt. 3, Box 349, Massena, N.Y. 13662, Tel. 769-6645.

TOPS Slates Open House

TOPS NY 493 will hold an open house May 24.

Come join the fun at 7 p.m. at the Massena Neighborhood Center building top floor.

On March 29, award night was held and installation of new officers at a candlelight ceremony with outgoing leader Mary Eldridge installing Barbara Vaquez as leader, Edna Pigeon as co-leader, Jean Cockayne as treasurer, Sandy Stetter as secretary and Sandy Lamay as weight recorder with Kathleen LaDuc assistant weight recorder. Barbara Vaquez presented merit certificates and charms to Division winners: Mary Eldridge for losing 23 1/2 pounds and Sandy Stetter losing 17 1/2 pounds in "88." Sandy Lamay a charm and bracelet for losing five weeks in a row.

Pauline Miller has become a KOPS, she has joined two others, Edna Pigeon and Wally Patraw.

Our chapter has 18 members right now and we run contests continuously to inspire you to lose.

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Wade Hired

GOUVERNEUR — Business Services Company, home based in Utica, has selected Curran Wade Advertising Agency, Inc., Gouverneur, as its agency of record for television advertising in the North Country. The agency has produced a series of television commercials to promote the various services of the company. Business Services, with North Country offices in Watertown and Potsdam, sell and service copiers, computers, fax machines, and other electronic office equipment.

Curran Wade Advertising Agency was also recently commissioned to design, layout, print and distribute the mailer for the Northern New York Builder's Exchange Spring Home Show, representing over 70 area businesses.

The James River Corporation, Natural Dam Division, Gouverneur, secured the graphic services of the agency to produce a full-color booklet and poster for a James River client for their Idea Day, hosting Hallmark Cards, Inc.

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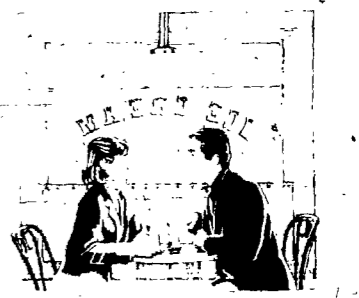
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