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Kenansville Board Discusses Annexing Restaurant Areas

The proposal was brought to the town by Joe and Doris Eakes of Kure Beach, who said they will buy the restaurant and motel from Joe West effective Oct. 15. The Eakes own Big Daddy's Restaurant in Kure Beach and several nursing homes.

Town attorney W.E. Craft said the Country Squire and Vintage Inn annexation would increase local property tax collections by \$2,800 to \$3,000. Additional money would be received from the town's share of revenue from liquor purchased at the local ABC store, he said.

After voters approved, restaurants last month began selling liquor by the drink in Kenansville for the first time since 1909.

In a poll of the Town Board, each member agreed with the Eakes' request and told them to proceed with their plans. A public hearing must be held before the annexation is official.

"I'm against drinking of any kind," board member Earl Hatcher said. "I'm against liquor by the drink or funnel. However, I will spend the tax money."

To spare the town a financial burden, Craft said the annexation must be conditional on the owners waiving city services such as water and sewer lines and police protection.

Eakes said no changes are planned in the operation of

The issue of alcohol occupied the Kenansville Town Board last week in debate over Sunday beer sales and three satellite annexation requests involving liquor by the drink.

A proposal to annex the Country Squire Restaurant and adjacent Vintage Inn Motel was favorably received by board members. The board, however, was less enthusiastic about proposals to annex Eula's Famous Hot Dogs and Barbecue and an undeveloped property south of town where a restaurant would be built.

Board members said they would only be interested in annexing areas if it would profit the town. The Country Squire and Vintage Inn would add 7.26 acres to the town while the other properties are about an acre or less each.

The Country Squire, adding that West will remain with the business. The couple said they will expand the motel and add a laundry and lounge.

"The Country Squire is Joe West and Joe West will be working with us," Eakes said. West, who founded the restaurant, is recuperating from surgery and will be a consultant until his health allows him to return to work, Eakes said.

The Country Squire now has brown-bagging permits, but Eakes said they will be better able to control alcohol consumption serving liquor by the drink.

Also asking about satellite annexation to allow liquor by the drink were J.L. and Eula Rhodes of Eula's Famous Hot Dogs and Barbecue,

which is about a mile north of town on Country Club Road.

A letter to the board from Bill Brown brought a similar request about a property south of town on N.C. 11 and State Road 1003, where he said he would build a restaurant.

These other two properties would have less tax value to the town than the Country Squire. Although the pro-

posals were not warmly received by the board, the owners were told they could pursue their requests.

In other business, the board discussed how state laws governing liquor by the drink sales at two local restaurants affect a local law passed earlier this year banning off-premises beer sales on Sunday. State law, which supersedes local law, allows both the Graham House Inn and the General Store restaurant-delivery to sell beer for off-premises consumption.

Local convenience and grocery stores are still governed by the local ban on Sunday sales.

The local law was enacted following protests from local residents about beer drinking in the municipal park on Sunday.

The board also awarded a contract for legal work for the federal Housing and Urban Development project under way to town attorney Craft.

Three other bids were received but board members said they felt Craft's familiarity with town laws and condemnation procedures would speed completion of the work.



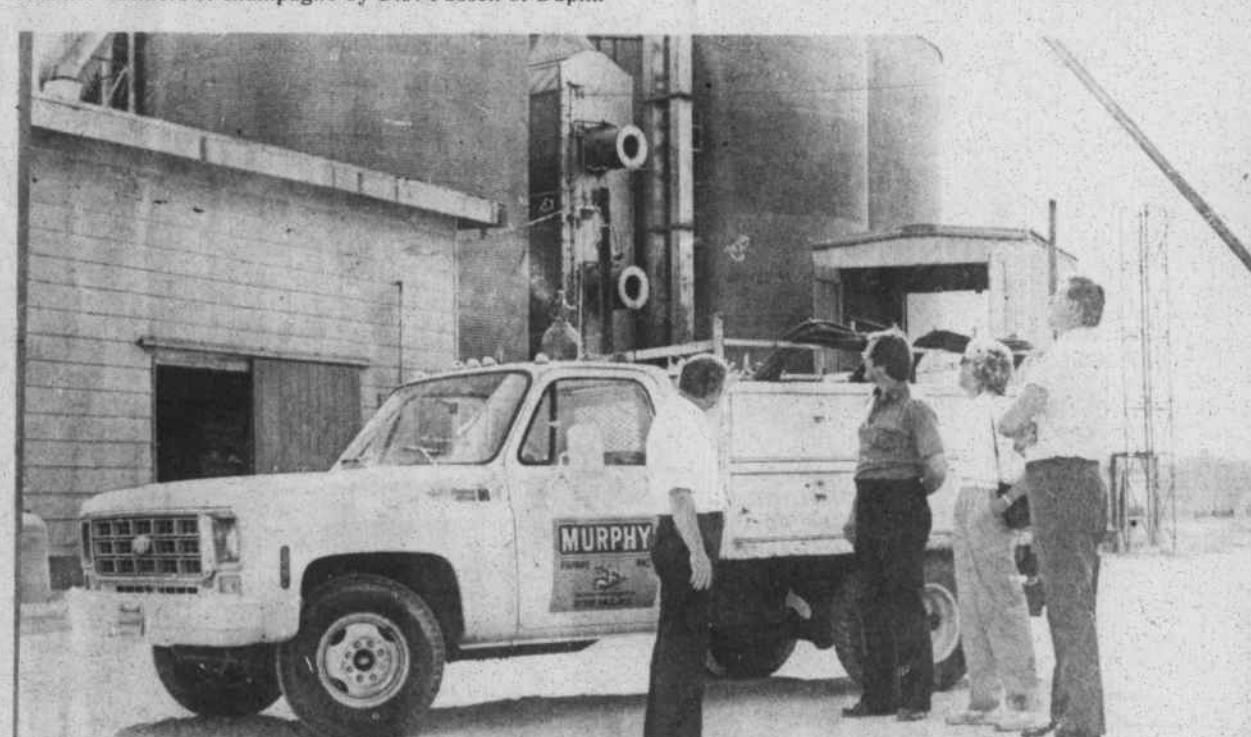
TOBACCO AUCTION IN WALLACE - Left to right, Betty Poulton, Dr. Poulton, J. Michael Moore, and Al Lanier. The group also saw R.J. Reynolds Tobacco hogsheads

packing station located at Sheffield's Warehouse in Wallace.



CHANCELLOR POULTON and his wife, Betty, are being told the wonders of champagne by D.J. Fussell of Duplin

Wine Cellars. The Poultons toured the winery in Rose Hill.



WENDELL MURPHY of Murphy Farms is telling Dr. and Mrs. Poulton of the feed operations at the Rose Hill Mill.

Bill Saunders also informed the Poultons of Murphy's grain purchasing program, both for feed and resale.

Distribution Of Free Cheese Is Scheduled

The next distribution of government-surplus cheese and butter in Duplin County will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 21 and 22 at the county warehouse, near the school bus garage on N.C. 11, just south of the Kenansville city limits.

Food stamp and public assistance recipients are eligible for the free dairy products.

Social Services Director Millie Brown told the Duplin County Commissioners last week she expects the surplus dairy products to be delivered to Duplin, Sampson and Pender County social services departments on Oct. 18. She said Duplin County will get 9,000 pounds of cheese. Although she requested 1,824 pounds of butter, she said she expects to get only about half that.

Mrs. Brown also reported that her department will accept applications for energy assistance between Nov. 1 and Dec. 11.

Food stamp and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients are eligible for aid in buying home heating fuel, but must submit applications. About 3,000 residents

applied for energy aid last year when the county distributed \$225,000.

That sum is expected to increase by 24 percent this year. The average payment was \$146 per household, with the largest grant \$293 and the smallest \$24.

In related news, a county-owned van last week began transporting kidney patients three days a week to New Hanover Memorial Hospital in Wilmington for dialysis treatments. Duplin County has no kidney dialysis facility.

Instead of paying dialysis patients \$8 per trip for travel expenses, the county bought the van, which can carry 12 people. Another five county residents use their own transportation and get the \$8 payment.

The van makes the trip to Wilmington on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, picking patients up at 8 a.m. and returning them home at 7:45 p.m.

The Health Department and the Goshen Medical Center of Faison got the county commissioners' approval to rent infant car

seats to parents of young children.

Debra Beasley of the health department and Jane Silve of Goshen Medical Center explained that private donations will be sought to purchase 15 seats required by state law for all children under 2 years of age.

The state government will contribute another 15 seats, which are valued at about \$22 each. They will be offered for rent at the health department and the medical center and possibly at a location in Wallace, for a fee that has not been determined.

The program will offer small seats that fit infants up to 4 months. All parents of children in that age category are eligible to rent the seats.

County Tax Supervisor Frank Moore is seeking five tax listers to work during January. Although 18 of the 23 temporary jobs are filled, Moore needs list takers for Warsaw, Limestone, Cypress Creek, Rockfish and Kenansville townships. The positions pay \$3.94 an hour for 41 hours weekly. Tax listing involves four weeks of work in January, he told the county commissioners.

Russell Tucker, the county finance officer reported that industries that use the county's waste-hauling service will face higher fees because of lease payments on the county's new truck.

Fifteen industries that use the service pay its entire cost, Tucker told the commissioners.

The new truck will cost the county \$1,681 monthly for three years, in addition to fuel, maintenance and the driver's pay and benefits.

Those costs will be passed on to industries, which paid \$13,432 for collections in April, May and June. That last quarterly bill showed an average cost of \$63 for each of 213 "hauls." A typical load will be from one of the county's textile mills.

On Oct. 20, the commissioners will open bids for the Limestone portion of the Limestone-Muddy Creek watershed flood control project. Because only two contractors submitted bids originally, the commissioners rejected the original bids and asked for new bids.

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