

# Duplin Times

## PROGRESS SENTINEL

VOL. XXXVII NO. 9

USPS 162-860

KENANSVILLE, NC 28349

MARCH 3, 1983

18 PAGES THIS WEEK

10 CENTS PLUS TAX



**GOSHEN GROVE, CALYPSO'S BEGINNING** - The first settlement of the community of Calypso was known as Goshen Grove, life-long resident Leonard S. Guy said. Calypso will be celebrating its 70th birthday this Sunday at the town hall, and the public is invited to attend. The

present town has a population of 645 citizens. The town was incorporated in March of 1913 and its first post office was established in 1898 bearing the name Calypso. Pictured above, right to left, town resident Buddy Batson, Postmaster Haywood Custer of Faison, and Calypso native Leonard S. Guy.

## Calypso To Celebrate 70TH Birthday Sunday

The town of Calypso was founded many years before its incorporation in 1913. The community was originally named Goshen Grove and grew into a lumber and produce town. Sunday, Calypso celebrates its 70th birthday.

Goshen Grove was a very small settlement, only consisting of David Cameron's general store and a platform where local farmers sold produce. Cameron would buy the produce and ship it north by railroad. Cameron was the second postmaster of the town of Calypso. A post office was established June 25, 1898. The first postmaster was Jacob W. Parrott.

The community began to develop when Wellington Patten moved to town and set up a flour mill. Calypso native Leonard S. Guy said. Patent gave up flour-milling and began to cut lumber and later changed his operation into a packaging company. The packaging company produced bushel hampers, potato barrels and lettuce crates for local farmers and agricultural areas outside North Carolina. Today the operation is the Calypso Plywood Company.

"The story I have always heard about how Calypso got its name is when Wellington Patent moved here, he wanted to change the name from Goshen Grove and name it after his wife, Elizabeth," Leonard S. Guy said. "But, they couldn't name it

Elizabethtown because there was already another place with the name, so a teacher by the name of McQuarter, at the local school, suggested the name Calypso. They say McQuarter had been teaching Greek mythology in school during the time and told the folks there would probably not be another community by that name." Calypso appeared in Homer's tale The Odyssey. In Greek mythology, Calypso is the daughter of Atlas. She lived on the island Ogygia. In the Odyssey, Calypso kept the shipwrecked Odysseus from returning home seven years. Calypso allowed Odysseus to leave on a ship of his own making upon the command of Zeus.

"Us boys used to go down to the Neuse and swim in the big holes where they would bring the big logs out from the water to load on oxen and bring to the mill," Guy said. "And, later Patten had a tram built to bring the logs to the mill. Joe Pentella used to operate the train for Patten and they'd go about twice a day and pick up a load." The railroad in Calypso also brought about the town's fame as a produce market. The Calypso shed was phased out by the Faison produce market, a more organized and larger facility, Guy said.

"Before the Faison produce market was built, we had the largest and busiest shed," Guy said. "There would be wagons and carts lined up for a mile in each

direction of the shed. The place would get pretty crazy and Mr. G.W. Albritton (produce buyer and Calypso resident) would get everything around there was mad and then he'd jump up and tell them he'd give 40 cents a crate, for it all." Patten left the lumber-milling operation to build produce crates and employed more than 500 people during green seasons. The agricultural community grew watermelons, strawberries and canteloupes. Strawberries were often loaded on box cars in the fields. The train cars were refrigerated by blocks of ice, Guy said.

"In 1930 Calypso's population was about 1,000," Buddy W. Batson, former employee of the packing company, said. "I came to Calypso in 1927 and worked in the plant as foreman of the lettuce crate department and later a truck driver. During the depression, we worked seven-hour days, seven days a week and were paid seven cents an hour. We got our 49 cents in due bills, not cash, and we could trade the due bills in at George Albritton's store for supplies." At the conclusion of the depression, Batson said, Patent could no longer make a profit due to the enactment of the national Wage and Hour laws and the packaging company was sold. Guy Ross operated the company approximately one year before the sale in 1941 to B.E. Bryan. Bryan opened the business as the Calypso Veneer Company and later changed the name to Calypso Plywood.

"I came to Calypso and never wanted to leave," Batson said. "Some say it's because I made the mistake of drinking the water. Houses and mercantiles lined the roads beside the railroad and on the corner

was a handpump which supplied water for all the homes and businesses. They said if you drank from that pump you would never leave, and I haven't."

Today Calypso has a population of 645 citizens, according to the 1980 census. Postmaster Haywood Custer boasts the name Calypso only appears once in the U.S. Post Office records and that is in Duplin County, North Carolina.

"Four or five years ago I received a letter from the famous explorer Jacques Costeau." Postmaster Custer said. "He wanted to know if he could come down the Neuse to Calypso in his little explorer submarine named Calypso, too." At that time Costeau was working off the North Carolina coast with a crew gathering information about the possibility of raising the ship Monitor.

Calypso will celebrate its birthday March 6, 1983, with an open house at the town hall. Open house begins at 2 p.m. concluding at 4 p.m. The public is invited to the open house where the town charter will be on display and refreshments served.

By Lois G. Britt

Duplin County's estimated gross agricultural income for 1982 totals \$231,326,995 which is an increase of \$3,735,586 from 1981, his increase came about because of a combination of higher prices and greater production. Agricultural extension officials are quick to point out that coupled with this, the farmers experienced greater expenses in order to produce last year's crop.

Labor, fuel, feed, seed, fertilizer and all raw products were higher than ever known. So, even though total agricultural income was up, net income may, in fact, be down for individual farmers. However, the total amount of \$231,326,995 was put into circulation many times in the economy.

Income figures were as follows, with the 1981 and 1982 figures: Tobacco, \$36,877,439 and 41,623,978; Corn, \$12,720,000 and \$9,798,750; Soybeans, \$8,743,500 and \$8,186,250; Other field crops, \$2,698,190 and \$2,021,940; Swine, \$30,485,000 and 33,917,700; Poultry, \$110,852,627 and \$114,292,396; Horticulture, \$15,852,089 and \$12,055,176; Beef & Dairy,

\$1,197,700 and \$1,150,580; Forestry, \$7,932,090 and \$6,278,067; Honey, \$5,145 and \$3,602. Total Sales amounted to \$227,363,780 and \$231,238,438. Government payments, 227,628 and \$88,557. Total Sales and Government Payments, \$227,591,408 and \$231,326,995.

Duplin tobacco growers harvested 10,931.56 acres in 1982 with an average yield of 2,362 pounds per acre. The value of tobacco was \$41,623,978. In 1981 growers harvested 11,432 acres of flue-cured tobacco with an average yield of 1,893 per acre, which sold for \$36,778,886 and 87 acres of Maryland tobacco with an average yield of 1,200 per acre which sold for \$98,553. In 1982 tobacco income was \$4,746,539 higher.

Duplin County farmers produced approximately 65,000 acres of corn in 1982 with an average yield estimated at 100 bushels per acre. This gave a total production of 6,500,000 bushels. It is estimated that 4,355,000 bushels of corn was sold for \$9,798,750. This was a decrease in income from corn of \$2,921,250 under 1981 income from corn.

The Duplin County soy-

bean crop of 59,000 acres produces an estimated yield of 25 bushels per acre for a total production of 1,475,000 bushels. The average price of soybeans was \$5.55 per bushel for a total value of \$8,186,250. This was a decrease in income from soybeans of \$557,250 under 1981 soybean income.

The total value of horticultural crops sold in Duplin County in 1982 was \$13,965,776 which was a decrease of \$1,886,913 from 1981. No one horticultural crop accounted for all the loss but some experienced a decrease because of price and weather.

The income from pulpwood and saw timber sold by Duplin County farmers was estimated at \$6,278,067 which was a decrease of \$1,752,023. There were no Christmas trees sold in 1982 which was a decrease in income of \$2,000.

Duplin County hog growers sold 313,500 head of slaughter hogs for \$39,814,500 which was an increase of \$5,532,000 over 1981 hog sales. This increase was because of higher production prices.

Cattle sold for slaughter amounted to 1,900 head which sold for \$795,340.

Total income from slaughter cattle and feeder cattle was \$869,140. Income from dairy cattle sales and milk sales was \$16,120.

Poultry was the leading agricultural commodity in Duplin County in 1982. The total income from poultry in 1982 was \$114,292,396. Broiler production in 1982 was 35,823,000 head which had a live value of \$36,277,952. This was a decrease of \$1,274,665 because prices were lower than 1981. Turkey production in 1982 amounted to 9,651,174 head compared to 9,454,338 head in 1981. Turkey production in 1982 was valued at approximately \$62,943,633 which was \$5,699,541 more than the 1981 sales. Commercial eggs sold for \$2,494,415. Broiler hatching eggs and turkey hatching eggs were valued at \$11,477,256 in 1982.

Gross agricultural income in Duplin County has continued to increase as producers have utilized technology to produce and as prices have continued to rise due to inflation. The impact of \$250 plus million in the economy cannot be discounted even though many farmers are experiencing less and less net income.

## Commissioners OK Expenditure

The Duplin County Commissioners last week purchased a heavy-duty truck for the county garbage service and authorized purchase of two ambulances if they become available through the Neuse River Council of Governments.

The county will pay \$57,345.35 for the 1972 model White truck. It is buying the vehicle from Triple T Parts & Equipment Co. of Wilmington.

Installing a garbage container and hydraulic equipment on the truck will cost another \$3,000. The vehicle will replace a broken-down truck and will be one of four garbage collection trucks in the county's service. Duplin County has maintained a county-wide garbage pick-up service for many years.

Authorization for the ambulances came following the

report of Hiram Brinson, county emergency services director, that the state is purchasing 15 ambulances and is assigning two of these to Region P, represented by the Neuse River Council of Governments. The state will provide 25 percent of the cost and the county or counties getting the vehicles will put the other 75 percent.

Brinson said he thought Duplin County has a good chance of getting the vehicles. The county wants to use the vehicles to replace aging ambulances in Wallace and Beulaville. Brinson estimated the cost at \$18,000 to the county.

Brinson also reported an unusually high collection rate on ambulance bills from July 12, 1982, to Jan. 1, 1983. The county, which supplies ambulances to area rescue squads, sends out bills for

service. Brinson said that during the last billing period, bills totaled \$57,347.35. Collections totaled \$45,470.84.

County Finance Officer Russell Tucker said the 79 percent collection rate for the first half of the fiscal year was far higher than the average of 60 percent collected in the past. Use of the county computer to get bills out soon after service is rendered was credited with some of the improvement.

Commissioner Allen Nethercutt said the improved collection rate will go a long way toward paying for the new ambulances if they become available.

In other business: Brinson also reported receiving 26 sets of antishock trousers. Each rescue squad will be issued one set — one pair for adults and one for children. The trousers are

put on persons facing shock problems and inflated to force blood from the lower to upper body. They can only be used when prescribed by duty physicians at Duplin County General Hospital in Kenansville. The rescue squad ambulances have radio contact with the hospital.

County Librarian John Michaud was authorized to purchase a library sign and have a brick wall constructed for it on the library grounds at a cost of \$1,150.

A public hearing will be held at 7 p.m. March 24 in the courthouse following a request by the Greyhound Bus Lines Co. to eliminate its Warsaw - Kenansville - Tin City - Wallace route. It would retain its Warsaw-Wallace route.

## Tar Heel Fine Arts Society Schedules Additional Concert

The Tar Heel Fine Arts Society has scheduled an additional concert for the 1982-83 season. On Saturday, March 12 at 8 p.m. in the Kenan Memorial Auditorium in Kenansville, a concert will be given featuring Edmond Karlsrud, bass-baritone, and The Men of Song.

Karlsrud, the popular American bass-baritone, is one of the most outstanding and experienced recitalists of our day. His record of over 1,400 concerts and over 400 Metropolitan Opera performances may be unequalled by any singer in the world today.

The Men of Song quartet has been rated by many critics as the finest concert quartet ever assembled. In addition to tremendously successful concerts, these

artists have performed on television, radio, recordings and in the movies.

Plan now to attend this concert on Saturday, March 12. A limited number of season tickets will be available at the door. The concert is open to any person who currently has a 1982-83 season membership ticket.

### UNC-G DEAN'S LIST

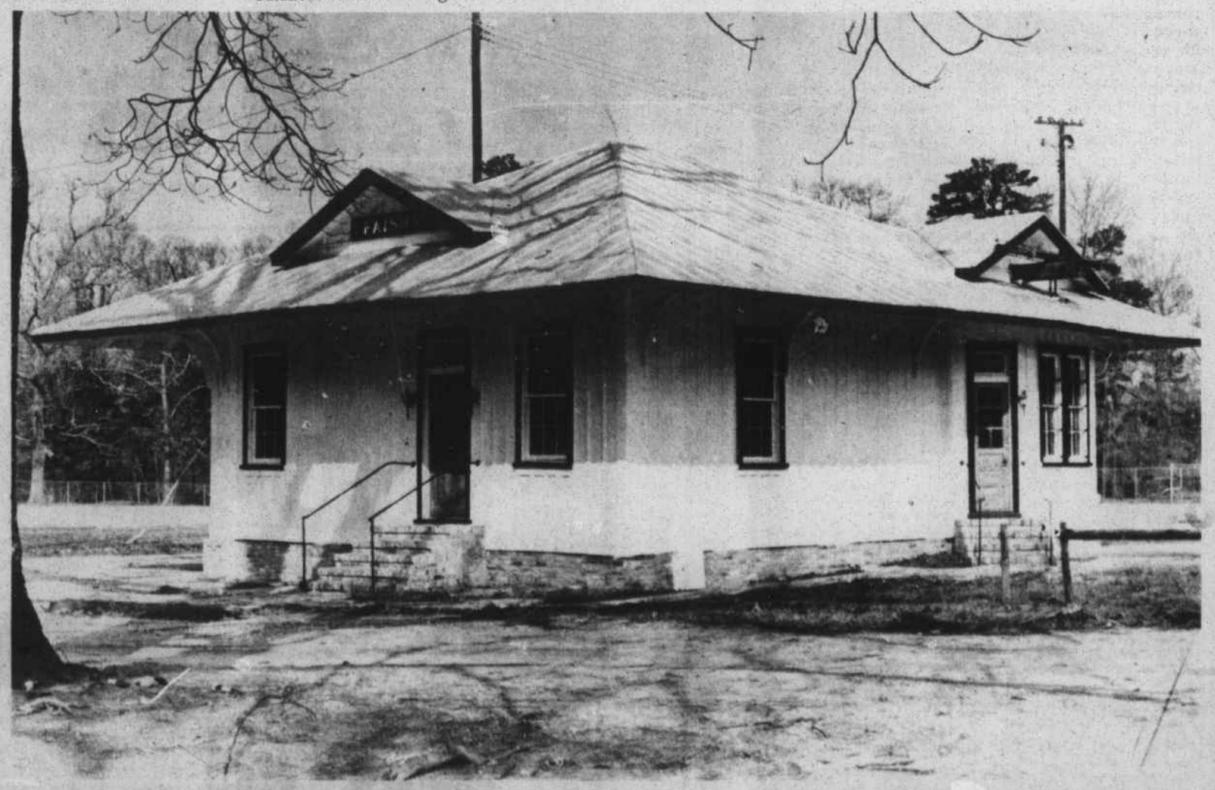
Two students from Beulaville attained the dean's list at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro during the first semester which ended recently.

They are: Diane Blizzard, a mathematics major, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl D. Blizzard of Route 1, and Laura Williams, an English major, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Surry V. Williams, also of Route 1.

## Greyhound Asking OK To Abandon Route

Greyhound Lines Inc. has filed a petition with the N.C. Utilities Commission to discontinue bus service along 17 rural routes in North Carolina, becoming the first bus company serving the state to take advantage of the recent federal deregulation of the industry.

Among the routes Greyhound is asking to abandon is the route between Warsaw and the junction of N.C. 11 and U.S. 117 south over N.C. 24 to Kenansville, including through Tin City.



**MUSEUM AND LIBRARY IN DEPOT** - The three-room Faison depot was moved to the town's parks and recreation ground during 1980 with plans for restoration. When completed, the depot will house the Faison town library and a museum of items relative to the town's past. Restoration of

the depot is coming to a standstill until additional funds can be raised to complete the job, restoration committee member Nan Fesperman said. However, committee members are hopeful that funds will be available in time to complete the project this summer.