

# Duplin Times

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## Duplin Fire Departments

# Exempt From OSHA

By Emily Killette

A bill has been passed to exempt rural and town fire departments in areas of population 10,000 or less from regulation on OSHA, emergency services director Hiram Brinson said. Compliance with new OSHA regulations would cost each fire department \$5,000 or more within the next year, Brinson added.

Rural fire departments are exempt, Brinson said. Towns of less than 10,000 may exempt their departments by the town board passing a resolution. Resolutions have been passed by the Faison and Kenansville town boards exempting their fire departments. And, the Warsaw fire department plans to request the town board of commissioners pass an exemption resolution on their behalf, Warsaw fire chief Cecil Guy said.

"We are not financially able to meet the new stan-

dards adopted by OSHA for fire departments," Warsaw Fire Chief Cecil Guy said. "I don't think any of the local fire departments are financially able to meet OSHA requirements for equipment. And, I wouldn't like to see any department have to close. According to the new OSHA standards, our fire department would need all new clothing and some new air masks. We do have a few air masks that could be conferred." Warsaw fire department equipment includes about 45 suits and approximately five are replaced each year.

"The fire department is going to work toward the goal of replacing damaged equipment with OSHA approved types," Guy said. "We would have replaced old equipment with the types required by OSHA, but the fire department can't afford to do it all at one time." Guy pointed out more than half of the Warsaw fire

department annual budget is raised by the members of the department. The remaining portion of the budget comes from county and town funds.

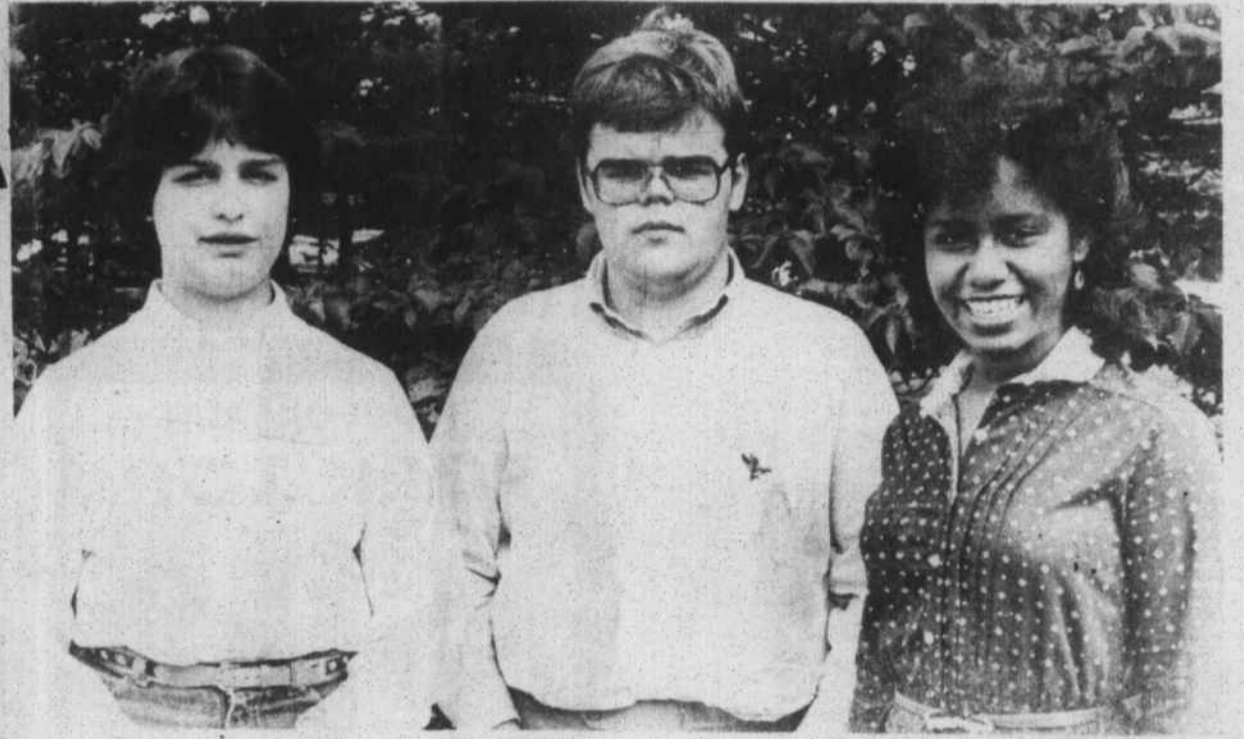
Faison fire chief Glenn Jernigan appeared before Faison Board of Commissioners May 4, to request the department's exemption from OSHA regulations, stating an estimated \$3,000-\$5,000 cost to comply.

"We (Faison fire department) want to be exempted from OSHA regulations," Fire Chief Jernigan said. "For one thing, we can't comply with their standards. It would cost us \$3,000 - \$5,000 to replace just our turn-out suits alone under OSHA regulations." A major cost in the conversion of turn-out suits would be the air mask. Approved OSHA air masks are pressure types which provide an automatic flow of oxygen. Types used by local fire departments are the demand models in which the fireman regulates the

flow according to his breathing. Air masks approved by OSHA cost \$800 or more.

The Kenansville Board passed the OSHA exemption resolution for the town fire department at their regular monthly meeting in May. Fire Chief Ronnie Bostic explained the department had just purchased 10 new turn-out suits within the past 18 months. The department has a total of 26 complete turn-out uniforms with about 34 active members.

"We (Kenansville fire department) are concerned about the turn-out gear. It would cost at least \$150-\$250 per suit to meet OSHA regulations," Kenansville Fire Chief Ronnie Bostic said. "Seldom does a suit wear out; it is usually damaged first. Our fire department is all volunteers and it is hard for us to meet OSHA standards. I don't think OSHA realizes what a struggle it is financially for a volunteer fire department to survive."



**JAMES KENAN STUDENTS TO ATTEND GOVERNORS SCHOOL** - Three students from James Kenan High School have been nominated to attend Governor's School this year. Pictured, left to right, are the nominees, Becky Frederick, Carlton Smith and Sonia Bell. Becky will attend

the Governor's School West in Winston-Salem to study the natural sciences. Carlton and Sonia will be attending Governor's School in Laurinburg. Carlton will study music and Sonia, mathematics.



**CARDINAL FLOWERS PLANTED AT WIGHTMAN LIBRARY** - The Duplin County volunteer beautification committee members sponsored by the Duplin County Agricultural Extension Service have planted the wild flower of the year at the Duplin County Dorothy Wightman Library. The cardinal flower seeds were received from the

North Carolina Botanical Garden last fall and the seedlings were grown by the Duplin Nursery of Rose Hill. The wild flower of the year will be planted on the grounds of public buildings throughout Duplin. Pictured above are two volunteers on the beautification committee.

## Funding Ok'd For Rose Hill Treatment Plant

Construction of the long-awaited Rose Hill sewage treatment plant is expected to begin in January.

Mayor Ben Harrell reported federal and state money became available for the project this week when unused funds were returned to the N.C. Environmental Management Commission from another project.

"I've been waiting 13 years to hear this," the mayor told the board last week.

The board approved a resolution formally requesting

the money from the state EMC.

Rose Hill was 13th on the priority list for the funding, Harrell said. Only 12 projects were funded this year, he added.

Total cost of the Rose Hill project is estimated at about \$1.7 million, of which the town share will be between \$225,000 and \$250,000. Harrell said \$1.7 million in state and federal money became available.

The planned Rose Hill plant will have a capacity of treating 300,000 gallons of

sewage a day.

Harrell said the town's engineering firm, L.E. Wooten of Raleigh, will call for bids and let contracts in October.

The town share of the cost will be financed from a bond issue approved several years ago by voters.

Rose Hill has been under a virtual no-growth situation for several years because of the inadequacy of its sewage treatment plant. It could not add connections that would increase the sewage load to the system, under EMC

direction.

In other action, the board directed town attorney Richard Burrows to inform Univision Cable Television Co. of Richlands it must complete connecting homes to the cable system within 30 days or forfeit its \$50,000 performance bond.

Harrell asked Burrows what could be done about the delay in cable hook-ups. The job was supposed to have been completed in March.

Burrows responded, "Tell them to get their stuff up or get out of town."

## Warsaw May Buy American Legion Building

The town of Warsaw may become owner of the American Legion post building.

Representatives of the Charles R. Gavin American Legion Post 127 last week offered the building to the town as a community center if arrangements for moving the structure can be made.

The town board tabled action due to the absence of Commissioners Frank Steed and Billy Kennedy. It plans to take action at the next meeting. Board members indicated interest in the proposal.

The building, with a seat-

ing capacity of about 200 in the ballroom, is outside of town. Moving the structure to the town would cost an estimated \$5,000. J.P. Johnson and J.C. Page, the Legion representatives, said the post members would attempt to obtain donations to help meet moving costs if the town takes over the building.

They said the Legion would like to have the building called the Henry L. Stevens Jr. Community Center and home of the Charles R. Gavin American Legion Post 127. The late Judge Stevens was one of the

post founders after World War I. He was a national commander of the American Legion and a superior court judge.

The declining membership of the Legion post is making upkeep of the building questionable, they indicated. The Post has 48 members. At its peak it had 248 members. It no longer has any World War I veterans as active members.

The post erected the building in 1928. In addition to the ballroom, it contains a kitchen and two other rooms.

Originally located in town, the building was damaged by

fire seven years ago. At that time the post moved the structure to its present location.

The board directed the maintenance department to relieve a drainage problem in front of the residence of Emma and Henry Boney, 308 S. Front Street.

It instructed Tyndal Lewis of McDavid Associates, a firm of consulting engineers, to apply for a \$250,000 jobs grant for street and drainage work.

Town Clerk Alfred Herring was directed to have street lights installed at the new sewage treatment plant.

## Rare Duplin Wine Fetches \$200

A bottle of Duplin Wine Cellars 1976 Scuppernong has sold for \$200 at an auction of North Carolina-produced wines.

Steve Kilpatrick of Kenansville bought the bottle at the North Carolina Rare Wine and Artifacts Auction on April 30, said David Fussell, Duplin Wine Cellars winemaker. Cellar officials said it was one of only three bottles of the wine known to exist. 1976 was the first year the cellar produced Scuppernong wine.

A bottle of 1976 Carlos was sold for \$175 and an old corker for \$48, Fussell said.

## Duplin General Hospital Auxiliary Card Games Benefit

The Duplin General Hospital Auxiliary is sponsoring a card (bridge, canasta, or what - have - you) games benefit Friday, May 20, at 7:30 p.m. at James Sprunt Technical College.

Tickets are \$2.50 (or \$10 per table) and may be obtained from any Auxiliary member or be reserved by calling Sally Tyndall at 296-0786 or Doris English at 296-0371.

All proceeds will be used for hospital needs. Help support our local hospital as well as enjoy an evening of games with door prizes.



**DUPLIN BUS ROADEO WINNERS** - More than 30 students from Duplin County public schools participated in the annual bus drivers "roadeo" May 11 at the Kenan Memorial Auditorium parking lot in Kenansville. Each driver maneuvered a six-part course including the serpentine race, passenger stop, diminishing clearance, off-set alley, turn around and stop line. Pictured above are the winners, left to right, standing, Lonnie Turner of Wallace-Rose Hill, first place, with Duplin Transportation supervisor Allen Wood and third place, Willie Jones of East Duplin High School. Left to right, kneeling, second place Alonza Brown from James Kenan High School and Herbert Tucker of Wallace-Rose Hill, fourth place. First place winner Lonnie Tucker scored 344.25 of the possible 350 points in the bus roadeo obstacle course.

## Agribusiness Council Meets

# Fair Committee Chairman Named

The Board of Directors of the Agribusiness Council met May 12th at Production Credit/Federal Land Bank Building in Kenansville.

David Byrd, president, expressed appreciation to the sponsors of the advertisement and information published in observance of National Agricultural Week observed in April. Sponsors of this ad were: Swift Company Processing Plant, Wallace; Charles F. Cates & Sons, Inc., pickles, Faison; and the Tobacco Board of Trade, Wallace.

Plans are developing for the second annual Duplin County Agribusiness Fair to be "bigger and better" in every way than last year.

Charlie's Amusements, a branch of Fun City of Lyndonville, N.Y., will provide a safe and modern midway. The equipment is new and games are family-oriented.

Lois Britt, Agricultural Extension chairman, reported that the Duplin County Livestock Association plans a heifer show and also a swine show for this year's fair. Trophies, as well as cash prizes, will be awarded to the winner in both of these shows.

The fair presents an opportunity for the people of Duplin County to display their talents as well as produce. If you have questions, please contact the chairperson in that department, or a "drop-off" box has been

provided at the AES office where you may leave messages, etcetera.

Key persons in the fair, their title and phone numbers are:

Coordinators: Roy Houston, Coastal Production Credit, 196-1789; and Lois G. Britt, AES chairman, 296-1996

Exhibits: David Byrd, president, Agribusiness 296-0720

Public School Coordinator: L.S. Guy, chairman, Board of Education 296-1521

Treasurer: John Smith, Federal Land Bank, 296-1535

Facilities: Carey Wrenn, city executive, United Carolina Bank, 296-0134

Programming: Yvonne Patterson, United Carolina

Bank, 289-3193

Publicity: Ruth Wells, 296-0379

Catalog & Sales: Billy Thomas, Murphy Farms, 298-2111

Agribusiness Concessions: Tom Rouse, vice president and city executive, NCNB, 296-1571

A key contact person is Cynthia Potter, who may be reached during the day at 296-1996 or at night at 296-1184.

The Agribusiness Council invites you to become a member of this worthwhile organization, and also to become involved in promoting agriculture in every possible way.

By Ruth Wells