

**MARKET BASKET SURVEY**

**Prices Vary Slightly  
At Four Grocery Stores**

While the highest and lowest grocery tapes varied only \$1.07, price differences on 20 common household items checked at four Shallotte grocery stores late last week show that comparison shopping can save you money.

The Beacon checked prices at the Hill's food stores on the north and south sides of town, the Red & White and the new Wilson's store at Coastal Plaza.

Wilson's prices came out lowest, at \$33.47, on this particular group of items. Staff members found, however, that prices on individual items varied significantly even for

items not on special.

A case in point: Dove bath-size soap, which rang up at 89 cents per bar at both Hill's stores, 79 cents at Shallotte Red & White and 73 cents at Wilson's. Crisco oil in the 32-oz. bottle ranged from \$1.69 at Hill's North, where about half the bottles on the shelf featured a 20-cents manufacturer's discount, to \$2.03 at Shallotte Red & White.

Future Beacon market basket surveys will feature similar assortments of items commonly purchased at the grocery store. Prices are those available to end-of-the-week shoppers.

Item	Hill's S.	Hill's N.	Red & White	Wilson's
Morton's Salt 26 oz.	.37	.37	.33	.33
Merita Bread 24 oz.	.89	.89	.89	.89
Minute Maid Orange Juice 12 oz. frozen	1.29	1.29	1.39	1.49
Cottonelle 4-roll pack	1.19	1.19	1.28	1.29
Saran Wrap 56 sq. ft.	1.29	1.29	1.19	1.11
Coca Cola 2-liter	1.39	1.39	1.19	.89
Chips Ahoy 19 oz.	1.69	1.69	1.89	1.89
Red Band Self-Rising Flour 5 lb.	.89	.89	.79	.89
Blue Bonnet 1 lb. stick	.69	.69	.75	.69
Dove Soap bath size 4.75 oz.	.89	.89	.79	.73
Fruit Loops 15 oz.	1.84	1.84	1.99	1.93
Heinz Squeeze Catsup 28 oz.	1.69	1.69	1.49	1.57
Dixie Crystals Sugar 5 lb.	1.69	1.59	1.49	1.59
Campbell's Chicken Noodle Soup 10 1/2 oz.	.41	.41	.39	.39
Kent Kings carton	6.98	6.98	7.09	7.05
Coigate 7 oz.	1.79	1.79	1.61	1.62
Crisco Oil 32 oz.	1.89	1.69	2.03	1.79
Tide Laundry Detergent king size	3.89	3.89	3.83	3.65
Oscar Mayer Bacon 1 lb.	2.69	2.69	2.99	2.59
Banquet Salisbury Steak Dinner 11 oz.	1.09	1.09	.99	1.09
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>34.54</b>	<b>34.24</b>	<b>34.39</b>	<b>33.47</b>

**Child Bills Goes To Committee**

Rep. David Redwine, a member of the new N.C. House Committee on Children and Youth, is the co-sponsor of legislation that would increase the punishment for felony child abuse.

The bill would result in a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison and a presumed sentence of three years.

Felony child abuse includes such crimes as disfiguring a child or causing other serious injury, permitting or encouraging child prostitution and other sexual acts.

This bill is one of several relating to children and day care introduced last week in the General Assembly, including a bill that would toughen day care staffing standards.

"These bills are very important because they deal with our most precious resource, our children," said Redwine. "I hope if you have

concerns about our children you will let me know."

Also last week, the General Assembly invited Gov. Jim Martin to give his State of the State address and budget proposals. Currently members are reviewing, in the Appropriations Committee, the budget recommended by the outgoing Hunt Administration.

Redwine said he is concerned about erosion caused in Brunswick County by the storm last week. He said he wrote the State Secretary of Transportation for help in solving the roadway erosion at Caswell Beach. "I am hopeful something can be done to remedy the situation," he said.

DOT announced late last week it plans to repair the road.

Redwine can be contacted at Room 2219, State Legislative Building, Raleigh, N.C. 27611, or by calling 733-5749.

**Dialing For Better Health**

The Brunswick County Health Department wants to hear from you this week.

To help determine the health care needs and desires of county residents, the department is conducting a survey in conjunction with the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. The poll is apparently the first of its kind commissioned by the department.

College students, under the supervision of two UNC-W professors, began making calls to 400 randomly-selected households across the county Monday night; the calls continue Thursday evening (tonight). They're asking questions about health programs, needs and interests.

Each interview takes about 10 minutes, indicated Lynn Royal, the new health educator with the Brunswick County Health Department. She encouraged cooperation with the student pollsters.

The survey is being taken, she said, "in order to provide the health department with information to plan

programs based on the needs and desires of the people in the county."

Designed by UNC-W professors Richard Dixon and Roger Lowery in conjunction with the health department, the survey is financed by a grant from the N.C. Division of Health Services. Answers to some of the questions can be compared with results of a similar, but more elaborate national survey.

Results of the local survey will be announced at a future date, Ms. Royal said.

**Farming Risks Topic**

The Brunswick County Agriculture Extension office will sponsor a meeting on risk-management, Thursday, Feb. 28 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the extension office in Bolivia.

Bob Collier, extension specialist from N.C. State University, will discuss the risk associated with farming and methods to reduce such risks.

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