

BRUNSWICK COUNTY'S ASCS office has a permanent, full-time executive director for the first time in nearly five years. Above, Director Kettrell Strickland goes over the county's only peanut allocation with Ada Varnum. who was acting director the past 21; years.

## Rescue Squad Sells Shrimp

Town Creek Volunteer Rescue Squad will serve fried shrimp dinners beginning at 11 a.m. Saturday, July 19, at the squad building, said Laura Coulter, secretary.

In addition to shrimp, the menu will feature colesiaw potato salad

and highpuppies. Plates are \$3 each. A bake sale is also planned Proceeds are used to support operation of the rescue squad.

The squari building is located on U.S. 17 at its intersection with N.C. 87 South at Winnabow

## ASCS Director Appointed

A new county Agricultural and Soilonservation Service executive director began work June 16 Kettreil Strickland is the first full-

time permanent director the agency has had in approximately 4%, years. He fills the position formerly held

by the late Ralph Price of Shallotte. Ada Varmin had served as acting director for 212 years. Prior to that, because of ill health. Price had worked part-time for two years before his COLUMN TO DECK

The new executive director describes hunself as a "farm bay from Scientiburg". He and his wife, the former Lisa Benton of Sampson lounty, are living at Holden Beach. Reared on a family farm in Samp-

son County, Strickland, 25, earned an associate of arts degree in field crops technology from N.C. State University in 1982. Prior to joining ASCS in December 1985, he worked on the family farm.

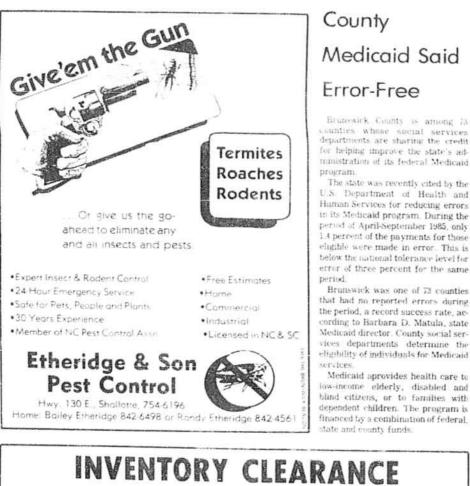
'I fully intended to farm," he said, but then opted for a change of career after several years back on the farm and an accident involving a combine in which he lost a hand.

'I wanted to establish a career. he added, that i also wanted to continue to work with farmers. They're a unique group.

This is his first appointment following completion of a six months ASCS transitis program that took him to various counties across the state

As head of the county office, Strickland works under the direction of county ASCS committee members Carl II. Holden, W. Elon King and Robert E. Smith, implementing farm programs established by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and overseeing day to day operation of the ASCS office

Farm programs are currently going through some rapid changes, he said, and times have also been hard



for farmers. Price support to par ticipating farmers is probably the most important of the ASCS programs to the farmer right now, he added

Strickland also administers the tobacco program; an emergency feed assistance program that provides feed at reduced cost in the event of a disaster that cuts off nor mal supply; and various conservation programs aimed at reducing seit loss to wind and water erosion preserving wetlands and improving water quality

The office is located in the Agriculture Building at the Brunswick County Government Center in Bolivia

While new at the job and with much to learn, Strickland said local farmers he's met have been very supportive and seem to understand. His attitude may have something

to do with his acceptance. Service to farmers is what we provide," said Strickland, "My highest priority is serving the

farmers of Brunswick County.

## Our South Brunswick Islands team







dependent children. The program is financed by a combination of federal, state and county funds



