

# Social Security For The Record

By Lee Wallis  
Field Representative

People who continue to work after retirement should remember that the amount of money they can make without affecting their Social Security benefits may depend on how old they are.

The new retirement test contains three age spans at which a person's earnings affect Social Security benefits differently — under age 65, 65 to 72, and 72 and over.

Under the earnings test that existed before the 1977 Social Security Amendments, the only time the earnings test was different for people receiving Social Security checks was after age 72.

Under the present test, a person under 65 receiving Social Security benefits may earn up to \$3,240 in 1978 without affecting their Social Security check.

An individual 65 and over may earn up to \$4,000 in 1978 without losing any benefits.

At age 72 a person's Social Security benefits are not affected by earnings.

The earnings test is based on the idea of Social Security benefits as a

partial replacement for earnings lost to the family because of the worker's retirement, death, or disability.

The earnings test serves as a yardstick to determine if earnings have actually been reduced and the person is in fact retired, or in the case of dependent's benefits, actually dependent on the worker's earnings.

Earnings over the annual exempt amount reduce the Social Security check \$1 for each \$2 in excess earnings.

This means, for example, that it is possible for a 65-year-old retiree with an average monthly Social Security benefit of \$240 to earn as much as \$9,760 before benefits are completely withheld.

You should also note that the "monthly earnings test" no longer applies to people after the first year in which they receive a monthly benefit.

Under the monthly test a person can receive a Social Security check for any month in which earnings do not exceed one-twelfth of the annual earnings limit, or \$334 in 1978 for a person 65 or over.

However, the monthly test often resulted in inequities. For example, seasonal workers or the self-employed could draw benefits for the months when they normally did not work without actually retiring or having their earnings reduced.

It was necessary to continue the monthly test for the first year in which a person retired to avoid the situation in which a person would not be entitled to benefits beginning with the month of retirement because his or her prior earnings for the year exceeded the annual exempt amount.

## Public Meeting To Be Held

"If you have something on your mind regarding conservation and natural resources, you want to mark August 1, 1978 on your calendar," Chairman Lloyd C. Bunch of the Albemarle Soil and Water Conservation District said today.

That's the day when a public meeting on the new Resources Conservation Act — Public Law 95-192 — will be held at 8:00 P.M. at the Edenton Municipal Building. While specific groups have been invited, including government agencies and organizations, the entire public is invited to participate. "We want to hear from those who come," said the chairman, "and their comments will be considered seriously and included in the report on this important meeting."

Comments will be sought on problems, trends and natural resource needs for Chowan County, and local concerns and needs will be evaluated and used to help in developing a five-year soil and water conservation program for the nation and the state.

The comments will be used to help plan programs to be carried out by the USDA Soil Conservation Service, the federal agency with main responsibility for working with natural resources. The new Resources Conservation Act requires public participation and involvement in determining needs and setting goals for soil and water conservation.

The August 1 meeting is open to everyone, without regard to race, creed, color, sex or national origin. "We hope we get a good cross-section of opinion, because that's what we need," the chairman concluded.

## Heart Association Has Information

Our bodies talk to us all the time, and one of the signals they may be sending is that a stroke is on the way. Do you know the warning signs of impending stroke? Ask the North Carolina Heart Association, 1 Heart Circle, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514 for a free copy of "Body Language".

A watermelon is 92 percent water.

It is estimated that the earth weighs 6 sextillion, 570 quintillion tons.



**SITE INSPECTION** — A company official and development representatives inspect a 75-acre construction site in Greene County where Deep River Farms Ltd., of High Point, plan to grow hydroponic tomatoes in greenhouses. Standing left to right are: Arthur Lyon, a managing partner of Deep River Farms, Ltd., Wick Exum, chairman of the Greene County Economic Development Commission and Tom Willis, director of the East Carolina University Regional Development Institute. (Photo courtesy of The Standard Laconic).

## Tomato Plant Patented

GREENVILLE — A \$3.3-million patented tomato growing operation, the subject of a feasibility study by the East Carolina University Regional Development Institute, will be constructed in Greene County, it was announced by Arthur Lyon, a managing partner of Deep River Farms, Ltd., of High Point.

The first phase of the project will consist of 35 greenhouses having over 130,200 square feet which should produce 35-million pounds of vine-ripened tomatoes per year.

Construction on a 75-acre site near Snow Hill has already begun.

"The Hygro-Flo System of producing tomatoes without soil began in Panama City, Fla., about eight years ago," Lyon said.

He explained that the tomato plants are placed in nine inch diameter black plastic tubes. Liquid nutrients are then pumped through the tubes to feed the

plants. ready to be picked in about 90 days and can be picked for 48 weeks a year. Each plant will produce about 30 to 40 pounds of tomatoes.

"We will have tomatoes grown in winter that are superior to the summer tomatoes that are grown in your back yard," Lyon predicted.

The location of the firm in Greene County is partially the result of a study made by the East Carolina University Regional Development Institute. Prepared by Talmadge D. Page, Sr., a development specialist and Thomas W. Willis, the institute's director, the study determined such things as the profitability of producing tomatoes in North Carolina and the area of the state that would have the greatest amount of natural resources (good water and sunlight) to insure the success of a tomato-growing operation.



A grateful mother in the Congo, impressed by the United Nations organization's educational work, named her son Unesco.

**BINGO**  
EACH THURSDAY - 8 P. M.  
AT ST. ANN'S CATHOLIC CHURCH  
**Two Jackpots**  
ENJOY BINGO IN AIR CONDITIONED COMFORT.

**A TOUGH FAMILY MACHINE**  
4-wheel drive  
**Jeep Cherokee**

'78 Jeep Cherokee "S" 2-Door

Ken Hoke Joe

VISIT THE HOME OF THE ★ GM ★ GIANT  
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Jeep wrote the book on 4-wheel drive!

**NOTICE!**

TAGS ARE ON SALE NOW FOR DOGS AT THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING BETWEEN HOURS OF 9 A. M. AND 5 P. M. MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY. ALL DOGS IN CITY LIMIT MUST HAVE CITY AND RABIES TAGS WHETHER KEPT IN THE HOUSE, OUT OF THE HOUSE OR IN A PEN.

**W. B. Gardner**  
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

**TENT SALE**

GRADE A WHOLE Fryers **LB. 45¢**

Western T-BONE STEAK **\$1.99 LB.**

SIRLOIN STEAK **\$1.99 LB.**

WHOLE BEEF Beef Rib-Eyes..... **\$2.59 LB.** Cut Free Into Steaks

Dinner Bell SLICED BACON **\$1.29 LB.**

Briarfield SLICED BACON **LB. 79¢**

Dinner Bell HOT DOGS 12 Oz. Pkg. **89¢**

Smithfield SMOKED PICNICS Whole **LB. 69¢**

**MONEY SAVING GROCERY SPECIALS**

CAROLINA TREET Barbecue Sauce 18 oz. <b>59¢</b>	LIPTON Tea Bags .... 48 ct. <b>\$1.29</b>	2 LITER Coca-Cola ..... <b>89¢</b>	TROPICANA Orange Juice... 1/2 gal. <b>99¢</b>	KRAFT CHUNK Cheddar Cheese... 8 oz. <b>99¢</b>	All Flavors Our Own Country Fresh Ice Milk ..... 1/2 gal. <b>79¢</b>	Cheese, Pepperoni, Hamburger, Sausage Jeno's Pizzas 13 1/2 oz. <b>79¢</b>	BANANA, CHOCOLATE, LEMON, COCONUT OR BOSTON CREAM Pepperidge farm cakes <b>89¢</b>	MANCO Corned Beef... 12 oz. <b>99¢</b>	SUNGOLD Peanut Butter .. 28 oz. <b>99¢</b>	A-1 Steak Sauce .... 5 oz. <b>59¢</b>	EMBERS Charcoal .... 10 lbs. <b>\$1.19</b>	QUART SIZE GULF Charcoal Starter ..... <b>69¢</b>	303 CAN DEL MONTE EARLY GARDEN Sweet Peas ... 3 for <b>\$1.00</b>	DEL MONTE GOLDEN WHOLE KERNEL Corn .. 303 can 3 for <b>\$1.00</b>	10 OUNCE TEXAS PETE Hot Dog Sauce 4 for <b>\$1.00</b>	HUNT'S Ketchup ..... 32 oz. <b>59¢</b>	48 OUNCE Wesson Oil ..... <b>\$1.89</b>	HUNT'S Sliced Peaches 29 oz. <b>59¢</b>	JUMBO ROLL Hi-Dri Towels... 2 for <b>79¢</b>	4 ROLL PACK SOFT 'N PRETTY Bathroom Tissue .... <b>79¢</b>	TREND Detergent ..... 42 oz. <b>89¢</b>	ARM & HAMMER Detergent .... 70 oz. <b>\$1.29</b>	LYSOL SPRAY Disinfectant .. 18 oz. <b>\$1.99</b>	VAN CAMP'S Pork 'N Beans 2 1/2 size <b>59¢</b>	303 CAN STOKELY Apple Sauce ... 3 for <b>\$1.00</b>	1 1/2 LB. LOAVES HARRIS MADERITE Bread ..... 3 for <b>\$1.17</b>	Maderite Hot Dog and Hamburger Rolls, 8 pack... 3 for <b>\$1.00</b>	Regular or Barbecue Daddy Crisp Real Potato Chips ..... <b>79¢</b>
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