

PROGRESS SENTINEL

VOL. XXXIII NO. 4 KENANSVILLE, NC 28349 JANUARY 27, 1977 8 PAGES THIS WEEK 10 CENTS PLUS TAX

Cold Weather Brings Problems To Duplin

The weather is the news around the country lately. Some people say it's the coldest winter since 1896 or 1900. Some effects of the extreme cold have been a run on space heaters, blow torches, etc., as household water pipes have frozen.

J. L. Rhodes of the Duplin County school maintenance department, said the system used 51,852 gallons of fuel oil during the first 19 days of January. During all of January last year, the system only used 51,675 gallons.

He said he didn't expect any serious problem in keeping the schools warm. "We have 71,164 gallons of oil stored now and have an allocation of 28,000 gallons more this month."

He said the automatic ther-

mostats, normally set at 55 degrees at night and automatically re-set to 70 degrees before school opens, have been adjusted to start warming the buildings an hour earlier than usual.

The biggest single problem encountered has been at the Warsaw Elementary School where workmen had to break into a new wall to get at a broken pipe. Outside pipes have frozen. When the weather warms, they may give considerable trouble.

Four schools in the County are total electric, 14 are heated with oil, and one school is a combination of oil and electric heat.

Wednesday, Holmes Murphy of Murphy Milling Company at

Register's Crossroads, said hog mortality had increased slightly. "Our major problem is with water," he said. "Pipes and pumps are freezing and breaking." The firm is hauling water to most of their swine locations and it freezes quickly.

William Prestage of Carroll's Warsaw also said his firm is having water and pump problems.

Duplin County is the largest hog and poultry producing county in North Carolina, with all livestock grossing producers around \$100 million last year, according to estimates of the state extension service.

Prestage also said mortality rates of hogs being carried to market by truck had jumped due

to the freezing cold while trucks were in movement. He said the firm has stopped marketing its hogs until the weather improves.

Larry Swanda of Nash Johnson & Sons Farms, of Rose Hill, largest turkey program operator in the Southeast, said some growers have lost a few more birds than usual, but losses are still considered minor. He said if the high winds of last week continue with the cold, the loss of turkeys will increase sharply as the birds pile up to try to keep warm. The wind creates a severe chill factor when coupled with the cold.

All producers agreed the weather will sharply increase their costs for the time being.

Snodie Wilson, agricultural agent, said chickens, turkeys and hogs would be eating more feed and putting on less pounds of weight due to the cold. In cold weather, animals use more energy to keep warm than normal, and convert more feed to heat energy, and less to adding weight. Wilson also said fuel consumption increases will up production costs. Costs of medication for poultry are also rising on account of the cold.

Frank Moore, Duplin County Tax Supervisor, said the cold weather had gotten the people out early to list their taxes. Moore said the tax listing had been extended to February 5th at 12 noon.

Two Fires In Beulaville Destroy One House

Two fires with an emergency helicopter rescue all came in Beulaville.

Trouble began at 10:10 a.m. when Hoover Pickett rushed into the fire department to announce his home was burning. Clad only in underclothing and a blanket, Pickett drove the four miles from his burning home to the fire department. He then drove back.

As firemen responded, they saw a fire in town, and stopped, thinking this was the fire they had been called to. It wasn't. The alarm had sounded after the truck had pulled out of the station.

The truck stopped at the Netwood Edwards residence, which was aflame.

Meanwhile, a frantic housewife, Mrs. S. A. Pops, called the town office to report "an airplane landed in my backyard."

It actually was a helicopter from the marines New River base. The copter had developed some engine difficulty and the pilot downed the craft in a convenient open area. The crew made repairs and took off in about half an hour.

Meanwhile, firemen succeeded in extinguishing the fire in the Edwards residence. However, the Pickett house was virtually destroyed by the time Pickett returned. He told the

keys to the car were in the burning house. Total loss of the one-story frame structure, contents and car was estimated at \$12,000.

The front room and part of the attic of the one-story Edwards home was burned. No damage estimate was available Monday night.

Kenansville and Sarecta fire departments also assisted.

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AT INAUGURAL FESTIVITIES - left to right, Doug Clark, Sue Fulcher, Ann Craft, Pot Craft and Elizabeth Grant get together at the breakfast sponsored by Senator Robert Morgan. The group left Kenansville Wednesday morning to attend the inauguration of the President and Vice President of the United States. More pictures and story are on page four.

Livestock Thievery Rewards Offered By Duplin Firms

A spokesman for a group of Duplin County poultry and pork producers, who joined in offering rewards for information leading to conviction of livestock thieves a year ago, said Thursday there appears to be an upsurge in thievery again after a lull of several months.

Wendell Murphy, of Murphy

Milling Co. said that after the reward offers were advertised extensively last January and February, livestock losses from "rustling" appeared to drop off.

The five firms offering the rewards are Murphy Milling Co., Carroll's of Warsaw, King Farms, Nash Johnson and Sons, and Watson Sea Food and

Poultry. The spokesman said these firms had estimated their 1975 losses from livestock and feed thievery at \$200,000.

Representatives of the companies met with judges and district attorneys of the area last January to study means of reducing what was then an epidemic of livestock thefts. The

officials suggested the reward idea to them, Murphy said.

The Duplin Sheriff's Department is investigating hog theft incidents that occurred the past few weeks.

Briefs

Jaycee Charter

A Jaycee Club received its official charter February 23 with the Mount Olive Jaycee unit the chartering group.

The Magnolia Club's first officers are Harry Pope, Jr., president; Mike Newkirk, internal vice president; Dalton Rouse, external vice president; Fred Taylor, treasurer; Stanley Baker, assistant treasurer; William Potter, secretary; and Timmy Evans and Alvin Dunn, board members.

Officers Installed

The Duplin County Shrine Club will install officers at a dinner meeting in Wallace on January 27th, with L. Frank Jones, potentate of Sudan Temple as installing officer.

Officers to be installed are Melvin Pope, Sr., of Magnolia, president; Robert Ray Thomas of Beulaville, vice president; Jimmy Tucker of Kenansville, secretary-treasurer; and the Rev. Clarence Lingle of Faison, chaplain.

Area Chamber Of Commerce

Interest has been expressed by several businesses of Kenansville in starting a Kenansville Area Chamber of Commerce. An organizational meeting will be held Thursday night, January 27, 1977, at 7:30 at The Country Girls Restaurant.

A Chamber of Commerce can mean a lot to the Kenansville area. Through a coordinated effort of merchants, professionals and other concerned citizens, the programs of a Chamber of Commerce can aid in the growth of Kenansville, improved services, and more funds for the business as well as aiding in the recruitment of additional medical services such as doctors, dentists and specialists.

Farm Employment Clinic

The Employment Security Commission, Mount Olive, will be holding a Farm Employment Clinic for the purpose of helping farm workers find farm work, and farm employers obtain qualified workers. If supplemental labor is needed to harvest farm crops, orders will also be taken for this purpose.

Frank Kilpatrick, Rural Manpower Representative, will be at the following locations the week of January 31 - February 19: Monday, January 31, 10 - 11 a.m., Wallace FCX Store; Tues-

day, February 1, 10 - 11 a.m., Dock Herring's Store at Blizard's Mill; Wednesday, February 2, 10 - 11 a.m., Ike Houston's Store at Pink Hill and Beulaville; Thursday, February 3, 10 - 11 a.m., Kennon Smith Store at Smith Township between Kornegay and Beulaville.

This service is rendered free to farmers in these areas by the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina. Anyone wishing information or workers should meet Kilpatrick at one of these points or contact him at

the ESC office, Mount Olive, Highway 55 West, between 8 a.m., Monday through Friday. The telephone number of the Employment Office is 658-4926.

Benefit Dinner

Elizabeth Whitman Day will be held February 5th at Unity Church. Barbecued pork and/or chicken will be served. The plates will be \$2.50.

The proceeds will go to help on medical expenses.

Mrs. Swain Honored By N.C. Porkettes

Mrs. Rose Swain, Route 2, Warsaw, was named North Carolina Porkette of the Year by the N.C. Porkettes Association at their annual meeting held in Raleigh January 13th. Mrs. Swain was named for her accomplishments as chairman of the projects committee and her leadership in the Association.

The N.C. Porkettes Association is the Ladies Auxiliary of the N.C. Pork Producers Association. Its goals are to assist the N.C. Pork Producers Association in the promotion of pork. Porkettes are wives of pork producers interested in promoting pork.

New 4-H Club To Be Formed

Any boy and girl between the ages of 9-19, interested in joining a 4-H club in the Big Zion Community or surrounding area, is advised that an organizational meeting will be held on Saturday, January 29th at 12 noon. The meeting will be held in the dining room of the AME Zion Church, Route 1, Kenansville. Anyone interested in participating may call either one of the volunteer leaders, Mrs. Gladys Miller at 296-1121, or Mrs. Betty Best at 296-3471.

The 4-H program strives to offer learning opportunities for youth and is conducted as a joint program of Duplin County and North Carolina State University through the Agricultural Extension Service.



COLD-D-D-D has been the word, but we in Duplin have been lucky that the picture above does not tell the whole truth. A water hose left running made the setting for this photo in Kenansville last week. With the record-breaking low temperatures and rain in the last three weeks, we are lucky not to be "iced in."