

# PROGRESS SENTINEL

Straight from the Shoulder - Right from the Heart of Duplin

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## Local Economic Problems To Be Discussed At Conference

A conference on the economic situation of Duplin County will be held Thursday, October 13 at 7 p.m. at James Sprunt Institute in the Hoffer Building.

The conference, which is open to the public, has been called by Governor Jim Hunt to help North Carolina develop a policy on balanced growth and economic development.

Secretary of Commerce D.M. (Laurie) Fircloth will join with Duplin County to discuss the specific issues facing Duplin County. Hunt termed the conference as an "information-gathering session", as well as an opportunity for state government to hear local citizens' ideas on improving North Carolina's standard of living.

Participants will divide into

three sub-groups for round-table discussions on agriculture, the manufacturing and processing industry, and service industries, including transportation finance, wholesale and retail sales and tourism.

The purpose of the conference is to find out what local communities believe are their own economic problems, and what they suggest local, state and federal government should do to help solve them.

During October, similar conferences will be held in each of the state's 100 counties. Reports coming out of these local county conferences will feed into a larger statewide gathering on balanced growth and economic development in January, 1978, and will be used by the State

Goals and Policy Board for advising the Governor on North Carolina's future economic policy.

## Record Enrollment At James Sprunt

An 875 unduplicated headcount in curriculum programs insures James Sprunt Institute a record enrollment for Fall Quarter '77. The figure represents a 25% increase in enrollment compared to Fall Quarter '76 figures. Alfred Wells, Dean of Student Services, attributes much of the increase in enrollment to new public awareness of offerings and the initiation of a late beginning date for the academic year.

**Surveys Conducted**  
During a two-week period immediately prior to September 20, the staff and faculty at James Sprunt conducted a county-wide telephone survey and door-to-door canvassing. The results of the surveys are to be used to update present offerings and introduce new programs. Where a sizeable number of people have shown interest in immediate enrollment, the administration plans to establish those programs as soon as possible.

**High Percentage Enrollment**  
In a twelve-year period, James Sprunt has enrolled nearly 40,000 people in various courses or programs ranging from full-time curriculum to in-service seminars. Although James Sprunt Institute serves a population larger than Duplin County, the bulk of the student body has always and continues to come from Duplin. The current record enrollment, should it continue, will add significantly to the total population of Duplin County served by James Sprunt Institute. With construction well underway on a new vocational/technical instruction building, the potential for continued growth appears bright.

## Football Contest Winners

First place in last week's football contest was won by Susannah Bennett of 205 E. Hill Street, Warsaw. Susannah, a student at Warsaw Junior High, missed on two games.

Four entries were tied for second place. Gail J. Bell of Route 2, Warsaw, won by guessing closest to the most points scored by one team in the contest. Tied for second with Gail were Bobby Wallace of Route 2, Mount Olive, Craig Craft of Kenansville, and two-time winner, Kathryn Wrenn of Warsaw. Kathryn failed to guess the most points scored on her entry.

The contest is sponsored each week by the following businesses: Smith Bros. Gas Company, Magnolia and Beulaville Gas Company, Beulaville; Golden Skillet, Warsaw; Rivenbark Motors, Warsaw; Kenansville Drug Store, Kenansville; Brown's Cabinet & Millwork, Inc., Rose Hill; Tadlock Chrysler - Plymouth, Inc., Warsaw; West Auto Parts, Warsaw, Kenansville and Beulaville; Warsaw Motor Company, Warsaw; Blackburn's Service Oil Company, Warsaw; The Duplin Times, Kenansville.

## Son Of A Gun

By Joe Lanier

Sometimes the excitement of going fishing is better than the actual fishing, as many a fisherman can testify. I mean, sometimes you return empty-handed. . . . Some even go empty-handed. . . . At least that is the story I hear. Seems Rodney Thigpen of the Sheriff's Department, had the day off last week. . . . Got up early in the morning and several friends came by to go with him. . . . He hurriedly got all their fishing gear, rods, reels, iced containers to bring the fish back in, a few snacks, and all. . . . And off they went to the beach. . . . All talking about how many fish they were going to catch. . . . Rodney was driving and furnishing the car, so of course he was supposed to catch the most. . . . But when they got to the beach and unloaded the fishing gear. . . . Son-of-a-gun, Rodney had loaded up everyone's gear but his own. . . . That's right, Rodney forgot his rod. . . . fishing rod, that is. . . .

Friends come in all kinds of shapes, peculiar dresses, and odd attributes, but sometimes you wonder if they are friends. . . . Would you call a bunch of boys your friends that one night, while you were away from your little foreign car, jacked it up and put drink crates under the rear axle so the rear wheels would just barely be off the ground. . . . And when you came back would make fun of you and your car until you got mad, got in your car, put it in low gear and started to spin the wheels as you were leaving. . . . But it didn't go anywhere. . . . Just sat there with the left wheel touching the pavement once in a while, making a screeching noise. . . . Embarrassing to say the least. . . . How about it, Steve Blanton? . . . Is that bunch of Kenansville Hillbillies still your friends? . . . After a trick like that, it makes me wonder if they are the ones who placed the commode bouquet on the Courthouse steps. . . . an old commode filled with azaleas. . . .

Watching the old cars in the Poultry Jubilee Parade reminded me of the Rocket 88 Olds and the Grey Ghost. . . . When the Rocket 88 Oldsmobile first hit the market, it was the fastest car on the road coming from the factories. . . . The talk was that it would go from a dead stop to 88 miles an hour in 8 seconds. . . . That was something amazing in those days, but not quite so amazing as the Grey Ghost, which was a late 1930's model Plymouth coupe. . . .

According to the story, this fellow, who was once a race driver, and his brother, who was a mechanic, got in trouble with the law and were barred from the racing profession. A bo-4-legger heard of the two and got

them to put together the Grey Ghost, with the racer doing the driving. . . . They took this little old Plymouth and re-designed and remodeled everything but the body, which was painted grey. . . . dark grey. . . . to disappear in the night. . . . There were two generators, a battery for each headlight, a double cooling system, and brakes that could be operated individually on the back wheels. The tail-lights were hooked to a rheostat and when turned, would dim, making one think it was further down the road than it was. . . .

The Grey Ghost was kept stored away and out of sight except when it was being used for hauling moonshine. . . . and no one ever did find out whom it belonged to. . . . It was practically impossible to stop or outrun it. . . . If the revenuers tried to hem it up, using the rear wheel brakes on one wheel, it would turn around on the highway and be going in the direction it had been coming from almost instantly. . . .

And it simply could not be outrun. . . . The story is that the little Grey Ghost would stay just ahead of the car chasing it until the chasing auto blew up. . . . One night someone leaned out of a window of a chasing auto and shot at the back of the Ghost. . . . The Ghost poured on the gas and before the fellow could get off another shot, it was clear out of sight. The driver of the chasing auto said "A little puff of smoke came from the tail pipes and it just disappeared. . . . And we were running over 100 miles an hour then". . . .

Back to the Rocket 88. . . . This fellow in Warsaw had bought one and was always bragging that he could outrun anyone. . . . One night a set of headlights came up behind him while he was running around 70. . . . He glanced in his rear view mirror and smiled, eased down on the gas pedal, and the Rocket's speedometer jumped to 100 and the headlights were still behind him. . . . right on his bumper. . . . He thought to himself, "I'll show him", and he stomped the gas pedal to the floor, his leg just shaking. . . . As the speedometer was bouncing on the bottom, the headlights behind him pulled out and up alongside him. . . . It was a little old beat up grey Plymouth coupe. The fellow driving nodded his head, reached down and eased the Plymouth into high gear, and before the fellow in the 88 could blink his eyes, the Plymouth was further down the road than the headlights on the 88 would shine. . . . By the way, the Plymouth did finally get caught. . . . The revenuers hemmed it up on a bridge. . . . with no place to go. . . . The driver got away, though. . . . Son-of-a-Gun. . . .

## County-Wide Recreation Program Discussed

Steve Moler of the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development met Monday with the Duplin County Board of Commissioners to discuss a county-wide recreation program. Moler was invited by the Board to meet and discuss the need for a full-time Recreation Director and the organization of a Recreation Advisory Commission which would be charged with coordinating efforts county-wide. He presented ideas on setting up a proposed budget for a year-round recreation service. He suggested a Commission of from 9-11 members, or possibly more.

appointed on staggered terms. After much discussion, Moler told the Board he would send more information on the formation of such a Commission. Billy Ison and Bobby Powell of the State Highway Commission, together with Garland Garrett, Eastern Representative on the Board of Transportation, met with the Board to discuss the upcoming \$300,000,000 Highway Improvement Bond issue. Garrett stated there are 16,400 miles of N.C. roadway in need of improvements and of these 7,100 are primary, 9,000 are secondary, and 300 urban. Five thousand of the 16,000 bridges need major improve-

ment. Garrett also stated that over the next 5 years \$175,000,000 would be used for primary roads, \$75,000,000 for secondary roads and \$20,000,000 for urban roads. Ten percent of the total bond issue would be allocated for bridge repair and replacement. There will be no increase in taxes, he said. Duplin County's allocation for secondary roads will amount to \$324,000.00 and if the bond issue is passed it will be increased to \$523,000.00. Garrett stated that over the next five years, Duplin County would get roughly \$1,000,000 in extra money. He stated this money for secondary roads is based on unpaved mileage in Duplin County. The Board voted unanimously to adopt a resolution in support of the Bond issue.

Ms. Minnie Rhodes and Joe Harvey met with the Board to discuss the need for: employment of minorities and underprivileged; Day Care Centers and Recreational facilities; an apprenticeship program; and on-the-job training program. Jim Risher, Industrial Developer, stated an application has been submitted for funds to build a Day Care Center for Duplin. He also stated that apprenticeship programs are set up by industries and industry feels there is no need for this type program at this time.

The Board appropriated \$821 as matching funds for the Community-Based Alternative Program (for children at risk).

Dr. H. W. Stevens, Health Director, and Joe Costin, Health Administrator, met with the Board to report on the Primary Health Care grant application submitted for a Duplin County Primary Care Center. It would provide diagnosis evaluation and treatment to 1,000 patients the first year, increasing to 2,000 or more the next year, and would provide medical care to special target areas such as minority groups, high-risk infants and medically deprived children. If approved, the grant will total \$49,923.

The Board appropriated \$12,500 for Part I of a county-wide water study for Duplin County. Three voted for and one against (Fussell).

The Commissioners appointed the following people to serve on the Neuse River Council of Governments Aging Advisory Committee: Walter Brown, Director of the Nutrition Program; Ms. Lillian Farrior, Magnolia; and John Hall was reappointed to serve another term; Ms. Kathleen Hall of Kenansville is to serve on the NRCG Manpower Committee.

The Commissioners set a policy on bad checks received by the County, stating that the person will be notified in writing and if the debt has not been paid within ten days, the person will be prosecuted.

**DUPLIN FARM FAMILY OF THE YEAR**  
Duplin County's young farm family of the Year was announced at the North Carolina Poultry Jubilee at Rose Hill Saturday, and is Thomas Earl Smith family of Route 1, Pink Hill.

are Mr. and Mrs. Smith and daughters, Tracy Ann, 6, and Kelly Denise, 21 months old. The Smiths have eight acres of tobacco, 59 acres or more, and grow about 3,000 head of market hogs on contract per year.

**FINGER LACKIN' GOOD** - Denise Ricks Graham proves her allegiance to the poultry industry as North Carolina Poultry Queen by partaking of Rose Hill's chicks from the "World's Largest Frying Pan."

Photos by Joe Lanier

## Filing Over For Municipal Elections

Sam Godwin filed for Mayor of Warsaw Wednesday morning during the extended deadline which ended at 12 noon.

The second largest town in the county, with 1,247 registered voters, will vote for two Town Board members. Three candidates have filed for the positions. They are incumbents W.E. Foster and W. John Weatherly, III, who was appointed to fill the unexpired term of R.P. Wood, and Kenneth A. Gay.

On the northern end of the county, the Town of Calypso, with 218 registered voters, will have to decide between 4 candidates for Mayor, and five out of ten candidates for Town Board. Candidates for Mayor are incumbent G. Glanton Barwick, Norwood Barfield, who also ran in 1975, Randall Guy Whaley and Hope Wiggins.

Candidates for two-year terms on the Calypso Town Board are incumbents Thomas W. Albritton, S. D. Davis, Jr. and James A. Parker. Also running are James Carter, Jon Daniels, Cecil M. Langley, L.R. (Ike) Nunn, Jr., Lawrence Biggie, J.R. Turner and Moseley C. Watters.

Wallace, with 1223 registered voters, will vote for 2 candidates for 4-year term to the Town Board. Candidates are incumbents Lloyd J. Stone, Willie M. Biggs, Jesse Daniels, Norman Fats Evans, Bob E. Harvell, Bobbie W. Marshburne and Dale E. Murray. Incumbent Mayor Charles C. Parrier is unopposed.

W.O. Montford and Henry Wells, Jr. There are 110 registered voters in Teachey.

Perry Whaley has filed for Mayor of Rose Hill, running against incumbent Mayor Benjamin L. Jarrell. The two positions on the Town Board are unopposed incumbents L. Clayton Hering, Jr. and Graham J. Robinson, Jr. are seeking another 4-year term. There are 60 citizens registered to vote.

The Town of Magnolia, with 300 voters, will elect three Town Board members. Incumbents Clarence Evans and Hubert Lee Howard have filed, along with Preston Hall, Frank W. Krause,

Bromley R. Pope and Millard Williams.

The Town of Faison will elect a Mayor and three Town Board members. Mayor Pro-tem William Igoe did not file for re-election as Mayor, but he is seeking a 4-year term on the Board. Filing for Mayor were P.B. Carter, W.R. Clifton and Alton King, Sr. Filing for Town Board were incumbent Helen Little Britt, Billie Franklin Cooper, Will Cottle, W.J. Igoe, Melvin Rogers and Fred W. Wheeler. There are 449 registered voters in Faison.

Douglas Judge will be unopposed in his race for Mayor of

Kenansville. Two seats are open on the Town Board. Candidates are incumbent Philip Kretsch, Jr., Nick Bowden, Earl Hatcher and Cordell Johnson. There are 478 registered to vote in Kenansville.

Voters in Beulaville will elect a Mayor and two Town Board members. Candidates for Mayor are Mayor Carl D. Pate, Sr. and Marion Edwards. Running for Town Board are incumbent Wilbur Hussey, Jr., Donald Ray Brown, Douglas Brown, John M. Simmons and Mervin Whaley. There are 535 voters in Beulaville.

The municipal elections will be held November 8, 1977.

## Vinson Elected Friends Of The Library President

Mark Vinson of Kenansville was elected President of the Duplin County Friends of the Public Library during their annual meeting on October 6th at E.E. Smith School in Kenansville.

Other elected officers are as follows: Vice President, Mrs. George Cates, Faison; Secretary, Mrs. Ethel Kelly, Mount Olive; Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Anthony Hall, Magnolia; Treasurer, Mrs. Mary Emily Browning, Wallace; and Historian, Mrs. R.E. Bony, Kenansville.

Elected to the Board of Directors were: D. Lynn Wright Smith, Warsaw; Beulah Wilson, Kenansville; Dan Newberry, Magnolia; Mrs. C.W. DeWine, Teachey; and Mrs. John

Monk, Magnolia; Mrs. Francis Jackson, Kenansville; George Cowan, Beulaville; Mrs. James McGowan, Kenansville; Conrad Jenkins, Kenansville; and Charlie Robinson, Wallace.

After the welcome by Mrs. Wayne Jordan, Board of Trustees, chairperson, the Secretary-Treasurer's report was given by Mrs. E.E. Kelly. Mrs. Kelly gave a brief history of "Friends of the Library" stating that membership was now at 285.

John Archibald, Library Director, introduced his staff as Mrs. Emmett E. Kelly, Mrs. Robert J. Miller and Mrs. John S. Todd. He also stated that the Bookmobile and Summer Story Hour were very popular throughout the county. The Bookmobile has 12 stops monthly.

Charles Peterson, Superintendent of Duplin County

Schools, was the speaker of the evening. He stated that "there are many libraries in Duplin County, and the major need is for better planning in order to get the books into the peoples' hands."

(Continued on Page 7)

## Shriners Fish Fry

The annual Shriners' Fish Fry is set for Friday, October 14 at the Duplin Shrine Club Building in Wallace. Fried fish with all the trimmings will be served during the noon and evening hours.

The Shriners ask full support of this project. Proceeds go to the Crippled Childrens Hospitals.

Tickets may be obtained from any Shriner, or may be purchased at the door.

## Rotary Student Of The Month



Art Kernstine

The Warsaw-Kenansville Rotary Club selected Art Kernstine as their Rotary Student of the Month for October.

Art, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Van A. Kernstine of Warsaw, is ranked number one in the senior class of 158 students at James Kenan High School. His extracurricular activities at JK include J.V. Football, Basketball, Statistician, Baseball, Biology, Geometry, U.S. Studies and Spanish awards. Football Manager, Governor's School Nominee, National Honor Society, President, Chief Marshal, Morehead Scholarship Nominee, School Yearbook Staff and Photographer.

Active in community activities, Art is an Eagle Scout and attended the 1977 National Scout Jamboree in Pennsylvania. He attends Johnson Baptist Church where he is a choir member and attends the R.A.'s. He was a blood donor this year to the Red Cross Blood Drive.

Art plans to attend UNC-CH and study the marine sciences.