

# Progress Sentinel

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

## PROGRESS SENTINEL

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**WHITLEY VISITS WITH ROTARY** - Congressman Charles O. Whitley spoke to the Warsaw-Kenansville Rotary Club Thursday at Bland's in Warsaw. Whitley gave a short talk after which a

question and answer session developed. Topics discussed included: the Panama Canal, Social Security, Tobacco, and the status of MH/30.

### Kenansville Starts Housing Rehabilitation Program

The Town of Kenansville has started a Housing Rehabilitation Program to offer assistance to its citizens in the making of needed repairs to their homes. This program will be provided in cooperation with the local Farmers Home Administration office.

Basically, the Town will be assisting eligible applicants in obtaining financial assistance through FmHA by providing technical aid in the preparation of the applications. This service will be provided by Miss Faye Bryant, who was hired by the Town under its recently received CETA manpower grant. Miss Bryant is a Duplin County native and a graduate of Fayetteville State University

with a degree in sociology. Also, technical assistance will be provided by the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development field office in Wilmington.

The main areas of housing repair will be repairing roofs; supplying the installation of screens, storm windows and doors; insulation; needed improvements to the dwelling heating system; repairing and providing structural supports; adding an additional room to an existing dwelling in special cases when clearly necessary to remove hazards to the family's health; and providing improvements to the water and waste disposal systems of the residences.

Any citizen of Kenansville interested in receiving assistance through this program is encouraged to contact Miss Bryant at her office located in the Duplin County Building, which is between the School Bus Garage and the Cumberland Paving Company plant, or by calling her at 296-0674. The funding through FmHA will primarily be in the form of low interest loans. However some grants of up to \$5,000 can be made available for eligible applicants over 62 years of age, who might qualify. Also, in selected cases, manpower through the Town's CETA grant can be provided to assist in the repairs.

### Son Of A Gun

By Joe Lanier

You don't have to pay it. You don't have to have it inspected. Week before last, I was moaning and groaning about having to pay a \$20 inspection fee to have my insulation inspected so I could get a tax credit from the State. Well, after further investigation and some help from a couple of friends in Kenansville, I find I was misinformed. The inspection is not necessary on insulation, storm doors or windows, and so on, put on or in homes built before January, 1978. It is necessary to have new homes, built after January 1, 1978, inspected and passed before the utilities can be turned on. However, on these new homes there is no tax credit allowed. But on older homes, the tax credit is allowed, and it does NOT have to be inspected. All one has to have is a receipt showing the insulation, storm doors, windows, and so on has been installed. And the allowed amount is one-fourth of the cost, up to and including \$100. If you have any questions about this tax credit, or inspection, before doing anything go by and see, or call Harold Rose at the N.C. Revenue Office in Kenansville. But to put it simply, install it and deduct one fourth, or 25% from the N.C. Income Tax owed. No inspection is necessary.

In case you haven't noticed, the road leading from the Courthouse to the Hospital is open, and there are 15 new parking places. But at the same time, Kenansville has blocked off parking in another area to install water and/or

sewer pipes. Sometimes I think that fickle finger is smiling and saying under its breath "Gonna getcha".

There is a fence around the jail construction site. Ask Mike Outlaw about it. I was told he was running from the Hospital to the Fire Department to assist in a fire call. I took a short cut. I ran into the fence. I knocked him down. I cold cocked him. And when he came to, he got up and ran into it again.

Everyone likes a Christmas tree. Of course, some more than others. Tony Braswell's daughter, Cherly, a one-year-old, who is just recognizing Christmas, has found a new wrinkle in enjoying a Christmas tree. She lies under the tree with a bottle in her mouth, looking up at the twinkling bulbs, with her feet crossed and propped up on the lower branches of the tree. Relax and enjoy.

Speaking of Christmas, I notice the TV commercials are again pounding out gift-giving gizmos. Like one that says a zipper can turn an \$8 pair of jeans into a more expensive pair. They fail to say the expense of what is going into the jeans. And pity the poor mother who has to wash that rhinestone and stud-filled pair of jeans. Can you imagine the noise they will make in the dryer, and those studs and such coming off in the washing machine.

Then there is the little old bottle cutter. A thing-a-ma-jig that cuts throw-away bottles and makes them into glasses or vases. However, with the cutting, the tapping, the sanding, and so on, you will spend an hour or two of your time to make an item you could have bought for 29 cents. Better yet, try to give your work of art away. It may end up like the throw-away bottle was intended to. And if you don't send it real good, you are going to end up with a cut mouth when you try to drink from it. Of course, you will probably break three or four throw-away bottles before you finally get one to do as you intended, so you still get rid of some junk before it becomes art junk.

Or you can buy one of those do-dads that puts buttons back on. A temporary solution. Not permanent. And you will need to carry one in your car, one in your shop, one in your home, and one at your local gas station. Never know when you are going to lose a button.

Also, there is the what-you-may-call-it plastic thing that, by winding yarn around on, you can make a rug. But get rid of your cat, for one pull on the wrong string, and you are rug-less. Then back to the old plastic winder-upper and ravel your rug.

For the kids, there are cows that give milk, dolls that leave nothing to the imagination, and that walking piece of plastic with a ringing bell called Mr. Machine is back. If you want an excuse to take a drink on Christmas Day, buy one of these things and try to put it together. If he is assembled, do not, and I repeat, do not take him apart. It will take an engineer to put it back together. I bought one for my boy many years ago to teach him how to put things back together. Trouble was, it took so long for me to do it, he lost interest, and so did I. I could have rebuilt an auto engine quicker. But you got to put the darned thing back together. How would it look for a grown man not to be able to assemble a toy that is marked for 10-year-olds. If you want to be mean to someone on Christmas, disassemble a Mr. Machine and send it to him with the instructions for reassembling.

Son-of-a-Gun . . . . .



**ADJUTANT GENERAL VISITS BEULAVILLE** - Major General William E. Ingram, Adjutant General of North Carolina, visited the Beulaville National Guard Armory on Tuesday afternoon. Ingram had an informal chat with Beulaville Mayor Marion Edwards and Chairman of Duplin

County Commissioners, Arliss Albertson. Pictured: (L to R) 2nd Lt. Kenneth D. Kennedy, Unit Commander; Major General William E. Ingram; Commissioner Arliss Albertson; and Mayor Marion Edwards.



**HIGHWAY 24 MEETING HELD** - (L to R) standing, Thomas Bradshaw, Secretary of Transportation for the State of North Carolina, answers questions of attending interested

persons during a question and answer session held at The Country Squire concerning the 4-laning of Highway 24 last Monday night, as Jim Rusher, Moderator, looks on.

### Association For Retarded Citizens Donate Funds For Christmas Gifts

D.J. Fussell, Chairman of the Duplin County Area Mental Health Board, is pleased to announce the donation of \$375 from Owen McAllister, President of the Association for Retarded Citizens in Duplin County. This donation will be used to buy Christmas gifts for the clients at the Adult Developmental Activity Program in Rose Hill.

Duplin County ARC has always shown an exemplary concern in the treatment and rehabilitation of the mentally retarded. The ARC played an important role as a member of the Interagency Council in beginning rehabilitation programs for the mentally

retarded in Duplin County. Fussell says, "The relationship between the ARC and Area Mental Health Board has always been positive and has helped us expand our programs."

Rev. Bryce Rouse, Workshop Director, who is also a member of the ARC, remarked, "The rehabilitation program at Rose Hill is oriented towards the utilization of the client's skills to their maximum benefit. We have 73 clients who are happy to be a part of this endeavor. Our clients realize a sense of achievement and pride for being useful citizens, instead of leading a vegetative life in an institution."

Dr. E.J. Raman, Area Direc-

tor, Duplin County Mental Health Center, who was also present, commended the ARC for their vital concern in the rehabilitation of the mentally retarded. He remarked, "If it had not been for their personal aid, at times, financial support, our program for the mentally retarded would have remained obscure. At various times the ARC has made significant donations. Their role in getting the Bell-Jordan Group Home started at Warsaw was very significant. Probably we have one of the best group homes for the mentally retarded in Eastern North Carolina. The impact of our program for the mentally retarded can be readily seen

from the fact that we have reduced our population at Caswell Center from 63 to 43 and that we hardly admitted anyone to Caswell Center for long-term care in the past three years." He added, "We are fortunate to have D.J. Fussell, Chairman of the Area Mental Health Board, and the other Commissioners, Kelly, Hoffer, Albertson and Costin, whose grasp of community needs, in general, and needs of the mentally retarded has always been exemplary. They are prepared to open another group home for mentally retarded males as soon as more State funds are made available. We are very optimistic."

### Five County Group Meets Highway 24 Association To Be Formed

A group of some eighty officials and civic leaders from five counties met with Thomas Bradshaw, Secretary of Transportation, State of North Carolina, on Monday night, December 12th, at The Country Squire to inquire about the status on Highway 24 and the possibility of 4-lanes from Fayetteville to Morehead City.

After a lengthy question and answer session, Jim Rusher, Executive Director of the Duplin Development Commission and program moderator, suggested that each county, town, agency and military base appoint one person to serve on a "Highway 24" association organization and endorse a resolution to be sent to the Highway Commission. The association would collect data and put information together so the twenty-four members of the N.C. Highway Commission will know of the need to improve and 4-lane Highway 24 from Fayetteville to Morehead City.

Arliss Albertson, Chairman of the Duplin County Board of Commissioners, ended his address by saying, "Let's do something that is going to help all the people in the area from Fayetteville to Morehead City."

Chairman Albertson introduced Thomas Bradshaw, Secretary of Transportation, who made these comments: "First of all, let me, on behalf of the Governor, thank you for the 'Bonds of Progress' vote on November 8th. Our improvement to the highway system can help us achieve a better

economic system. It will take 115 million dollars to improve Highway 24 from Fayetteville to Morehead City. Your willingness to participate is shown by your attendance, but you are in competition with a lot of other sections of N.C. that want to improve their highway systems. A lot of pulling together must take place in order to 4-lane Highway 24. Our commitment is to listen to you and determine what will be best for North Carolina. We will have a billion dollars to 1.5 billion to spend on N.C. highways with 7.5 billion needed."

Lewis Wrenn, Administrative Assistant to Congressman Charles Whitley, stated that Congressman Whitley wholeheartedly supported the project and hopes that a continued interest in 4-laning Highway 24 would prevail.

Representative Tommy Baker said, "I've often asked why Eastern North Carolina can't have 4-lane roads, and everyone says they build them where the people are. Mr. Secretary, if you will build us some roads, the people will come down here."

Many others in attendance expressed the great need of a corridor from Fayetteville to Morehead City in order to improve their economic development.

Those attending included: Hosts - Duplin County Board of Commissioners; Arliss M. Albertson, Chairman; D.J. Fussell, Sr., Vice Chairman; William L. Costin; J.W. Hoffer, E.E. Kelly, and Russell E.

Tucker, Clerk to the Board.

Also attending were: D.M. (Lauch) Faircloth, Secretary of Commerce; Col. John Kovak of the U.S. Marines, Camp Lejeune; Col. Pritchard Adams, U.S. Army, Fort Bragg; Billy Rose, Administrator of DOT; Col. Adolph A. Hight, U.S. Army District Engineer Office in Wilmington; and from the N.C. Dept. of Transportation, T.W. Funderburk, Billy Isom, Frank Logan, J.C. Nethercutt and Billy Rose; plus representatives from counties and towns from Fayetteville to Morehead City.



Sunset in Duplin

(Photo By Joe Lanier)