

Times

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

PROGRESS SENTINEL

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BEULAVILLE JUNIOR MISS AND HER COURT
The first Beulaville Junior Miss Pageant was held Saturday, August 5, in the East Duplin Fine Arts Building. Winners, left to right, are Lucinda

Maready, third runner-up; Jennifer Miller, first runner-up; June Sandlin, Beulaville Junior Miss; Diane Blizzard, second runner-up; and Gwen Sholar, fourth runner-up. (Photo by Dolan Brown)

June Sandlin Crowned Beulaville Junior Miss

by Dolan Brown
June Sandlin was crowned Beulaville Junior Miss Saturday when the Beulaville pageant was held at the East Duplin Fine Arts Building with 23 contestants competing for the title. Miss Sandlin is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Allen Sandlin. First runner-up was Jennifer Miller, daughter of Mrs. Barbara Miller; second runner-up, Diane Blizzard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Blizzard; third runner-up, Lucinda Maready, daughter of Mr. and

Mrs. Robert D. Maready; and fourth runner-up, Gwen Sholar, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Sholar. Janet Hogan of Norman was the very capable Mistress of Ceremonies for the pageant in the light of the changes in the pageant since the changes. Miss Debbie Solomon, the current North Carolina Junior Miss, and first runner-up for America's Junior Miss, was also on hand and did a specialty act to the delight of the audience. The theme for the pageant was Saturday Night Fever. As part of the competition, the contestants did dance numbers

to music from the movie, "Saturday Night Fever." While the judges were making their final decisions, the audience was entertained by the Blanton Dancers and Debra Blanton. Then the time had come to announce the winners. Awards were presented in four categories. The categories and winners were: Creative and Performing Arts, Diane Blizzard; Academic Achievement, Jennifer Miller; Youth Fitness, the between Diane

(Continued to Page 6)

Health Director For Duplin Dies

Dr. Hamilton Wright Stevens, Jr., 63, died Thursday. Graveside services were conducted Saturday at the Barlow-Vista Baptist Church Cemetery near Holly Ridge. Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Mary Farr Stevens of Kenansville; daughter, Mrs. James Stradley of Atlanta, Ga.; father, H.W. Stevens, Sr. of Wilmington; and three grandchildren. Dr. Stevens was Health Director for Duplin County. He was a native of Wilmington and had a life-long career in Public Health. He was Health Director of Onslow-Pender County during World War II, and implemented the building of the Onslow County Hospital and Health Center. He was later Health Director of Wilson County and had constructed a health center there. He then became Health Director of Buncombe County and constructed a

health center in Asheville. He was past president of Wilson County Medical, Public Health Association and the N.C. Local Health Association. He was past president of the Southern Branch of the American Public Health Association and a member of the North Carolina Board of Sanitarium Examiners. In 1967 he was recipient of the Carl V. Reynolds Award for outstanding services in the field of preventive medicine. The family requested that donations may be made to the American Cancer Society.

Son-Of-A-Gun Found On Page 6



ROTARY JOINS J-K BAND BOOSTERS FOR PANCAKE SUPPER - A joint kickoff pancake supper meeting between the Warsaw-Kenansville Rotary Club and James Kenan Band Boosters Club representatives was held last Thursday during the Rotary regular meeting at Brown's Restaurant. The supper will be Friday night, September 8, at 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. prior to the first James Kenan Football game in the JK cafeteria. All proceeds will go help buy uniforms

for the JK District Band. Rotary club members will be in charge of cooking and serving with the JK Band Booster members selling the tickets. Pictured (L to R) W. P. Fennell, representing E. E. Smith Jr. High; Carl Price, Band Booster Chairman for the Rotary Club; Bill Taylor, principal at James Kenan High School; Faye Price, Treasurer JK Band Booster Club; and Claudette Hedrick, Band Boosters Club.

Duplin Board Authorized Purchase Of Land For Diagnostic Laboratory Near Rose Hill

The County Board of Commissioners authorized the purchase of 10 acres of land Monday for the proposed North Carolina Poultry and Livestock Diagnostic Laboratory. The Board appropriated the \$24,000 for the site on U.S. 117 and SR 1137 north of Rose Hill. The state proposed the

laboratory several weeks ago to serve the large poultry and livestock industry of the region. Duplin County agreed to furnish the site. The state asked for a minimum of five acres. Commissioners said the purchase will be completed following the necessary survey and title search.

The county also has a 90-day option on one acre at one corner of the site. The acre is owned by the Masonic Lodge, which is asking \$5,738.21 for the plot. Commissioner D.J. Fussell, in making the motion to purchase the 10 acres, said the corner lot is not needed and omitted it. R.Grubbs of Calypso com-

plained that he was taxed too much for his 70 acres of farmland within the Calypso city limits. The prime farm land is assessed at \$900 per acre. Grubbs said this would be just over \$63,000 and that his actual valuation was set at \$81,330. The Board pointed out that in addition to the land value, the

buildings had to be considered. Buildings on the property were valued at \$16,000, and a tobacco allotment at \$3,890. Under the farmland use law, which allows land to be taxed on the basis of its value as farmland rather than

(Continued to Page 5)

Test Scores Show Duplin Students Losing In Higher Grades

Results of a battery of tests administered to first, second, third, sixth, and ninth grade students in North Carolina show that scores of Duplin County students begin to drop below the national grade equivalency at the third grade and the gap widens at the sixth and ninth grade levels. The test results released last Tuesday by Superintendent Charles Yelverton show that Duplin's first and second grade students equaled or surpassed the national average grade equivalency for the test. Reading, math, spelling and language tests were administered to third grade

students in Duplin County during the seventh month of the school year. The average grade equivalent for third grade students in the nation, according to information released from the Department of Public Instruction, is 3.7. The grade equivalent scores for the average third grade student in the Duplin County School system were 3.3 in reading, 3.5 in math, 3.3 in language, and 3.6 in spelling. The national average grade equivalent for the sixth grade test in reading, math, language and spelling is 6.7. The grade equivalent scores for the average sixth grade

student in Duplin County were as follows: reading, 6.2, Math, 6.5, language, 6.5, and spelling 7.1. At the ninth grade level, the average grade equivalent for students in the nation is 9.7. The scores for the average ninth grade student in Duplin were as follows: reading, 8.0; language, 8.7; and math, 8.5. The trend of the Duplin County third, sixth and ninth grade students to fall below the national grade equivalent is also seen in a comparison of the state-wide results from North Carolina and the national average. While the state grade equi-

valent average begins to fall below the national average at the third grade level also, the figures show that the difference is not as marked as is the difference between the national grade equivalent scores and the grade equivalent scores for the county. Reading and math tests were administered to first graders in Duplin County during the seventh month of the school year and, according to the information, the average grade equivalent scores for first grade students in the nation is 1.7. The grade equivalent scores for the average first grade student in Duplin County were 1.7 in reading and 2.2 in math.

On the second grade level, which had a national grade equivalent of 2.7, the grade equivalent scores for the average second grade student in Duplin County were 2.6 in reading and 3.0 in math. As part of the testing program, teachers provided socioeconomic data (family income and education background) about each Duplin student. That data reveals that the ethnic makeup of Duplin County schools is 44 percent non-white, while the state as a whole is 23.1 percent non-white. Statistics received from the testing bureau show an average of six months difference in achievement in

white and non-white students on the third grade level, one and one-half years at the sixth grade level, and two years at the ninth grade level. The data also shows that the difference in achievement ability of Duplin children coming from families with an income less than \$5,000 annually is significantly lower than that of children coming from families where income is \$15,000 or more annually. As an example, the difference in achievement on the tests in third grade, between low and high income, ranges as much as 1 1/2 years, three years difference at sixth grade, and nearly four years at the ninth

grade level. Duplin students whose parents had no higher than an eighth grade education did not score as well as those whose parents had a high school education or some education beyond high school. Another interesting statistic obtained from the test data, was the fact that girls achieved at a slightly higher level than boys in all grades in Duplin County. **ACHIEVEMENT TEST SCORES** State annual achievement test scores have been translated into grade equivalency scores. The national standard has been

established as a comparison base to read the grade year and the school year month, thus 1.7 means first grade, seventh month (the month the tests are taken) and this is the national standard for the first grade. Scores higher than the standard for each grade mean the students exceed the standard achievement, likewise scores lower, mean lower achievement. A score of 8.5 for a sixth grade means it scored 1.8 grade equivalency achievement years over the standard. A 7.8 score for a ninth grade means it scored 1.9 achievement years under the standard. The national standard for each grade appears beside the grade number.

State U. S. Standard	B.F. Grady	Beulaville	Chinquapin II	Warsaw Elem.	Kenansville	North D. Elem.	Rose Hill-Mag.	Wallace	E.E. Smith	East Duplin	North Duplin	W-RH	Warsaw Jr. High	State
Grade One 1.7														
Reading	1.8	1.9	1.5	1.8	1.5	1.8	1.8	1.5						1.8
Math	2.3	2.6	1.7	2.2	1.7	2.4	2.6	1.7						2.1
Grade Two 2.7														
Reading	2.8	2.7	2.4	2.7	2.3	2.6	2.7	2.7						2.8
Math	3.5	3.0	2.9	2.9	3.3	3.5	3.0	2.5						3.2
Grade Three 3.7														
Reading	3.6	2.9	3.2	3.4	2.8	3.3	3.3	3.3						3.5
Language	3.7	3.1	3.3	3.6	3.2	3.3	3.0	3.6						3.6
Math	3.7	3.5	3.4	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.5						3.6
Total Battery	3.7	3.3	3.3	3.4	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.5						
Grade Six 6.7														
Reading	5.3	6.0	6.5	5.7	5.8	5.8	5.9	7.4						6.3
Language	6.2	6.2	7.9	5.9	5.9	5.6	6.5	7.4						6.6
Math	6.3	6.4	6.3	5.7	6.0	6.0	6.9	7.3						6.5
Total Battery	5.9	6.2	6.5	5.7	5.8	5.9	6.4	7.2						
Grade Nine 9.7														
Reading									7.4	9.0	7.0	8.0	7.7	9.0
Language									8.0	7.9	7.4	8.9	8.8	9.3
Math									8.1	9.0	7.7	8.9	8.0	9.0