

The Times

PROGRESS SENTINEL

KENANSVILLE, NC 28349 FEBRUARY 11, 1979 20 PAGES THIS WEEK 10 CENTS PLUS TAX

Easement Signed for Watershed

By Joe Lanier

After more than ten years of planning, surveying, and discussion, the first right-of-way easements for work on the Limestone-Muddy Creek Watershed Project of eastern Duplin County were obtained Friday.

Signing the first easements were property owners Mr. and Mrs. George P. (Edna) Rhodes of the Limestone area, and James T. Williams of the Muddy Creek area.

Williams said, "I was at the first meeting they ever held on this about ten years ago, and I've been after it ever since."

The project, which would cost an estimated \$5 million, is designed to reduce crop losses in the region by improving farm drainage. It is expected that land that has been considered virtually useless due to flooding from the channel-clogged streams of the area, will be returned to production, according to county officials, resulting in better income for a number of the county's soil conservation district landowners.

About 7,000 acres will be made more usable through the project, according to Duplin Soil Conservationist, said Friday. Easement work would include 91 miles of channel clearing, clearing of ponds, and so on.

The plan calls for a large recreation area with a 75-acre lake, which would be the county's largest body of water; a 75-acre recreation area around it with campsites, group shelters, and nature trails; fishing piers in the lake, and fishing access

areas, and walkways along the stream banks.

Putreal said an intensive land treatment program is being planned to prevent the severe sedimentation problem that has partially clogged the channels over the last 2 1/2 centuries. About 50% of the farm and forest land in the area is now under conservation plans, Putreal said.

Putreal said a review of the tobacco situation shows in a five year period prior to 1969, farmers lost more than a million pounds of tobacco production potential to flooding. In the last decade, losses have continued, with the value of the losses increasing due to the increasing value of tobacco. About 2,000 acres of tobacco are involved in the area.

The application for the watershed project was approved by the sponsors, Duplin Soil Conservation District supervisors, the watershed improvement committee, and the county board of commissioners in December 1970 and January 1971. Field examinations and meetings were conducted through 1971. The Board of Commissioners appropriated \$1,017,000 for technical assistance in planning between 1972 and 1977. Engineering field work was begun in late 1972, and completed in early 1975. The preliminary investigation report was first scheduled for 1975, delayed to 1976, and again to late 1977. The preliminary investigation draft plan was completed in 1978.

Little Miss Duplin Pageant Planned

The Faison Jayettes will sponsor the second annual Little Miss Duplin County pageant on Saturday, May 5 at 8 p.m. at the Kenan Memorial Auditorium in Kenansville. The Jayettes promise that this year's pageant will be even bigger and better than last year's, which was a huge success.

Entrants must be between the ages of 4 and 7 at pageant date, and must be residents of Duplin County. The first eight entrants will be accepted, and must be sponsored by a merchant, who will furnish her \$50 entry fee. Anyone interested in entering a little girl in the pageant should contact Doreen Sue Kennedy at 265-5528 no later than March 9. Entrants will not be accepted after that date.

The theme of this year's pageant will be Disney World, and entertainment is planned around this theme, which will charm the children as well as adults.



FIRST MUDDY CREEK EASEMENT SIGNED - James T. Williams (seated with pen) signed the first Muddy Creek easement as friends in the watershed looked on. (L to R) Front Row - Douglas Lanier of Route 1, Chinquapin; James T. Williams of Route 1, Beulaville; George Cowans of Route 1, Beulaville; Randy Fietrel of Route 1, Beulaville; Robbie Hatcher.

Chinquapin; Terry Parker, Chinquapin; Allen Nethercutt, county commissioner of Chinquapin; Lonnie Andrews of Route 2, Beulaville; Kenneth Nethercutt, Kenneth Futrel, Soil Conservationist; Abe Pickett of Route 2, Beulaville; R.H. Lanier of Chinquapin; and Norman Maready of Chinquapin.

Duplin Farmers Win Awards

Duplin County farmers won their first place prizes in an agriculture awards banquet in Kinston last Tuesday night. Other counties competing in the Neuse area included Onslow, Jones, Lenoir, Wayne, and Sampson.

First place prize for corn went to Alton James Wells of Wallace for production of 190 bushels of corn on a measured acre. Wells had a plant population of 25,000 per acre, grown in 36-inch rows. He also grew soybeans and 30,000 pounds of tobacco.

Other first-place award winners were: A.F. Shaw of Beulaville for roaster-fryer turkeys; Raymond Brown of Chinquapin for heavy turkey hens; Joseph Burnett of Albertson for brooder hens; Leland Herring and Sons of the Scotts Store area for swine; and Cecil Koenegay of the Scotts Store area for purebred hereford beef cattle.

Joe Williams of Rose Hill won second place in the beef cattle competition with his Angus breeders.



WARSAW DSA WINNER - Bobby Batts was named the Warsaw Distinguished Service Award recipient at the Jaycees annual banquet Thursday night. Batts, a Warsaw native, is a past president of the Warsaw Jaycees. He has been active in the Warsaw recreation program coaching

Little League baseball and football. He is a member of the Warsaw Baptist Church. Bobby and his wife, Linda, have two children. Batts is employed by Quinn Company of Warsaw. Presenting the award is Dwight Smith, right, Batts, center, and Linda Batts, left.

Bobby Batts Named Warsaw Jaycees DSA Recipient

Bobby Batts, a Warsaw native and past president of the Warsaw Jaycees, was named recipient of the Warsaw Distinguished Service Award for 1979.

"Batts has been very active in the Warsaw Recreation, having coached Little League baseball and football. Before presenting the DSA Award to Batts, Dwight Smith, 1978 DSA recipient, said, "I think Bobby, through his leadership, has inspired a lot of young men to be better. I take pride and pleasure in presenting Bobby Batts with the 1979 DSA Award."

In accepting the award, Batts said, "I thank my wife and everyone concerned."

Other awards were as follows: Presidential Awards of Honor - John Mumford and Tim Scanlan; Outstanding Teenagers - Karen Koenegay and Bennie Roberts; Outstanding Young Educator - Tommy Benson; and Outstanding Young Farmer - Johnny Carlton.

Milford Quinn was also presented the first Warsaw Honorary Jaycee Membership for his efforts and support of the Warsaw Jaycee chapter through the years.

Calvin Quinn introduced the speaker for the evening, Bill Straughan, Jr., a Warsaw native, and presently employed as Director,

Office of Resource Development, American Bar Association, Member Senior Executive Group, Chicago, Ill.

"During our high school days," stated Quinn, "It was a pleasure to be a teammate of yours. It was due to sports that you have the stamina that has carried you through

life."

"I thank you for the opportunity to come back home," stated Straughan. "Seeing one old friend is better than making five new ones."

"Service to humanity is the case I want to make," continued Straughan. "We must rededicate ourselves that service must be an

intricate part of our lives. We must return to duty, sacrifice and service. Let's consider beginning here to help preserve the communities we serve. I think I speak in the spirit of what some of these Jaycees seek. You can see the importance of those who dedicate themselves, and I ask you to dedicate yourself to service to mankind."

FIRST MUDDY CREEK AREA EASEMENT SIGNED BY JAMES T. WILLIAMS - (left) with Soil Conservation District supervisor, George Cowans and County Commissioner Allen Nethercutt watching.



Barbecue Dinner

The Unity-United Methodist Church is sponsoring a barbecue-pork and chicken dinner February 24th at 5 p.m. until 8:50.

MILFORD QUINN FIRST WARSAW HONORARY JAYCEE - The Warsaw Jaycees presented Milford Quinn an Honorary Membership to the Jaycee Chapter Thursday night at their annual DSA banquet. Quinn, president of Quinn Company in Warsaw, has been a big supporter of Jaycee work, both locally and statewide. "He was the push behind the Warsaw-Calyppo Jaycees bringing back the Miss Duplin County Pageant this year," stated Jaycee president Bill Costin, Jr., left. The Warsaw Jaycees have also given five Life Memberships to Brooks Boyette, Gerald Quinn, George West, Craven Bowser and Frank Steed.