

## April Is Poultry And Egg Month \$104 Million Business For Duplin

Governor James B. Hunt has issued an official proclamation declaring the month of April "Poultry and Egg Month" in North Carolina. The Governor noted in his proclamation that "poultry is North Carolina's largest food industry... is very important to the economic welfare of the state... and provides a basic human need — food."

The Governor also noted that "poultry provides thousands of jobs for North Carolinians... generates millions of dollars in farm income for the state... and provides, in fact, the second highest commodity income for the state, exceeded only by tobacco."

Gross income from Duplin County poultry and eggs last year was 104 million dollars. According to Snoddy Wilson of the Agricultural Extension Service in Kenansville, 34 1/2 million broilers were produced in Duplin during 1978, with a gross income of 36.9 million dollars; 6 1/2 million turkeys were produced with 53.6 million dollars gross income; 600,000 culled hens were sold, valued at 1.2 million dollars.

at a rapid rate. (Gross farm income from N.C. poultry has climbed from 167 million dollars in 1958 to approximately 710 million dollars in 1978.)

Quantities of each poultry item produced have also increased at a phenomenal rate. The number of turkeys produced increased from 8.3 million head in 1968 to over 19 million head in 1978. The number of broilers produced in North Carolina increased from 263 million in 1968 to an estimated 352 million head in 1978. Egg production in North Carolina increased

from 3.0 billion eggs in 1968 to an estimated 3.4 billion in 1978. Further growth for the industry is anticipated in 1979 and production may exceed the record high of 1978.

Poultry industry men in North Carolina are dedicated to serving the state's citizens

and millions of consumers nationwide. These industry men are continually striving to expand their knowledge through research and innovation and will continue to provide fresh quality food products to consumers at reasonable prices. Woodhouse noted.

## Duplin To Seek Water System Grants

By Joe Lanier

The Board of Commissioners voted to apply for a Farmers Home Administration grant of \$3.3 million and a state Clean Water Bond grant of \$3.2 million for a proposed county-wide water system last Monday.

Cost of the proposed system is estimated at about \$13.5 million. The difference between the grants and the cost would have to be made up by a bond issue.

The Board met for the first time in the newly renovated courthouse. Since the courthouse was closed for renovations and additions about

year ago, the meeting have been held in the auditorium of the Agricultural Building.

The first Superior Court term to be held in the revamped structure is scheduled for April 9 with Chief Resident Judge Henry L. Stevens, III, of Warsaw, presiding. There will be two courtrooms for the first time, one entirely new, and one renovated.

An open house for the courthouse and new jail will be held May 6. The jail was occupied two weeks ago.

During the renovation period, court has been held in rooms of James Sprunt Institute.

The Board also agreed to pay half the bill for lighting

proposed by the Kenansville Jaycees for the shelters at The Spring across from the courthouse. The area has been turned into a small park. One shelter covers the spring and the other provides picnic shelter. A Jaycee delegation, including Doc Brinson, Woodrow Brinson, Rich Boyd and Ray Johnson appeared before the Board asking for help in paying the light bill if the Jaycees install the lighting.

The Board also approved purchase of five radio units for rural fire department trucks at a cost of \$6,575. The amount was included in the budget of Hiram Brinson, Civil Defense coordinator. Kenneth Futreal, Soil

Conservationist, reported that 270 easements for rights-of-way for the Limestone-Muddy Creek Watershed Project had been signed. A total of 864 easements will have to be obtained. Futreal said contracts for the work may be let in March, 1980.

Lois Britt, Extension Chairman, said the Southeastern District spring 4-H program will be held at East Duplin High School June 27th. The district includes 13 counties.

Mrs. Britt also observed a black shank tobacco disease test plot is being set up with Jack Sauls of Bowdens, and a tobacco herbicide test plot with Bill Loftin of Albertson.



BREEDER BIRDS at the Wendell Evans farm on Route 1, Magnolia. The turkeys are seven weeks old and will soon be moved to the finishing houses on the farm.



TURKEY CHECK-UP - Mike Kern, left, serviceman for Carroll's of Warsaw, checks one of the turkeys at the Wendell Evans farm. Evans, center, and son Wendy, right, raise 44,000 turkeys a year and are never without turkeys in their four houses. Evans said the turkey business is a

good way for farmers to supplement their income. A native of Duplin County, Evans is the fourth generation to farm at the home place. In addition to raising turkeys, Evans and his son farm 400 acres of land.

## In-School Suspension Program Approved

The Duplin County Juvenile Task Force has approval of the Board of Commissioners and Superintendent C.H. Yelverton to begin a pilot in-school suspension program in Warsaw Junior High School, according to Jim Flowers, Task Force chairman.

The task force is asking for a grant of \$14,000 from the state's community based alternatives program to finance the proposed program.

Flowers said an answer on the grant is expected by April 1.

He explained that under this program, a student who did something which normally would call for suspension, would serve the suspended time under special supervision in school instead of being on the street. The student would be under stricter discipline than usual and would probably lose most special privileges

for the time involved. The idea, he said, is to keep the youngsters in class and off the street crime scene. "Most of the kids you have trouble with need more teaching anyway," he said.

According to Flowers, the Warsaw school was chosen because it has the necessary room available for the program. Eventually, he said, such a program should be established in each high school.

## Family Alleges Police Vendetta

A Duplin family is seeking \$1 million in damages from the Wallace Police Department, the Town Board, the Sheriff's Department, and the County Commissioners for alleged harassment.

The civil action was filed in U.S. District Court in Wilmington by Mr. and Mrs. M.C. Stallings and other members of his family: Mark S. Stallings, Gene S. Stallings and Ronnie C. Stallings.

The suit charges that various members of the police and sheriff's departments maliciously violated the family's civil rights by assaulting them, invading their privacy and "terrorizing them on numerous occasions."

Specifically named in the suit was Wallace Police Sgt. Lonzie Underwood, whom the Stallings claim "made a personal vendetta to attack the family." They claim he allegedly threatened to kill one of them.

The plaintiffs charge that Underwood told Ronnie

Stallings in March 1977 that he was ready to fight him and that he would "put a hole in you."

The next day, Underwood allegedly followed Gene Stallings outside the Wallace city limits to his father's house after he refused to talk about personal problems.

The suit alleges that Underwood ran his car into the back of the family truck, knocked Gene Stallings to the ground and choked him.

When another family member told the officer to

stop, Underwood allegedly pulled his gun and swung his police radio at them.

"The Wallace police have an understanding that the Stallings family is to be harassed," and members of the Duplin Sheriff's Department cooperate, the suit said.

Wallace Police Chief Roscoe Rich and Duplin Sheriff Elwood Reville are also named, along with the government boards for failure to properly supervise the actions of their subordinates.

## Warsaw, Faison Sued For \$346, 896 Due To Arrests

By Joe Lanier

The cities of Warsaw and Warsaw said five police officers in the two towns are being sued for a total of \$346,896 in damages in U.S. District Court in Wilson.

The suit, brought by William L. Smith, Jr., Marshal E. Thompson, and James McCoy, all of Wayne County, alleges the men were denied their constitutional rights when they were jailed at Warsaw.

The trio was arrested in Warsaw and charged with being armed in the town of the people, a misdemeanor, and conspiring to commit a crime, conspiracy, a felony.

On January 11, all three were acquitted of the misdemeanor count in Duplin County District Court. No probable cause was found in the felony charge. Judge

Steve Williamson of Kenansville presided. Faison Police Chief Randy Brock and Officer Ray King were named individually. Three Warsaw police officers were unidentified in the charge.

King responded to a call from Branch Bank & Trust Co. in Faison on December 15, reporting bank employees had seen a man put a gun under his coat outside the bank.

King saw their car head south on U.S. 117 and called the Warsaw police, who stopped the men and arrested them. Warsaw police searched the car and found a .38 caliber pistol in the trunk.

The tires were chained to a truck, but thieves broke the fastening. The tires were to be used on dump trucks and were owned by the Triple A Trucking Company of Gainesville, Georgia.

ECU STUDENTS HONORED BY PHI BETA KAPPA

Phi Beta Kappa, the oldest and most prestigious honor society in the U.S., has named 12 students from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for outstanding academic achievement at Chapel Hill Thursday, March 22, by the UNC-CH chapter of the Phi-Professional Health Society.

Excutive Board Meeting

Chairman Ariles Albritton has called a meeting of the NC 24 Committee Executive Board for Thursday night, March 29 at 7 p.m. at Fugate's Steakhouse and Restaurant at the intersection of N.C. 24 and U.S. 701 in Chapel Hill.

This is a very important meeting, according to Woody Beason, the secretary-treasurer. Topics to be discussed include selection of a name for the N.C. 24 effort, financing for the effort, membership and many other important topics.

Among the honorees will be James Elaine Dunn (history), Kenansville Highway, Warsaw

Students recognized

Annelle D. Weeks, fresh mate from Faison, was among the 20 students honored.

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