

# Duplin Times

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## New Doctors To Come To Warsaw Charges Dropped Against Mayor Godwin

On Saturday, Dec. 8, Drs. R. Stephen Griffith and Clark B. Hanmer informed Duplin County Physician Recruitment, Inc., Dr. Edwin P. Ewers, and the Warsaw Chamber of Commerce Physician Recruitment Committee of their decision to locate in Duplin County and establish a medical practice in conjunction with Dr. Ewers in Warsaw upon completion of their specialty training in Family Practice in July, 1980.

Dr. Griffith and his wife, Nora, have one child and are expecting their second. They are formerly from Missouri, and are presently living in Tuscon, Ariz. Dr. Hanmer and his wife, Debbie, have a daughter, and they are formerly from Michigan and are presently living in Fayetteville.

Both doctors plan to practice as family physicians including the practice of obstetrics.

Family physicians are trained to fill a unique and specific role in the delivery of modern comprehensive services. The residency program in family practice requires a total of three years of training following graduation from medical school. Such training usually includes training in family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics, psychiatry, ob-



Dr. Stephen Griffith

Dr. Clark Hanmer

**TO BEGIN PRACTICE IN WARSAW** - Dr. Stephen Griffith (left) and Dr. Clark Hanmer (right), two of the three physicians to visit Duplin County Dec. 1-2, have announced intentions to begin a family-type practice in Warsaw. Both doctors plan to practice in the building with Dr. Edwin Ewers of Warsaw, and will arrive in July, 1980.

stetrics and gynecology, basic-surgical principles, and community medicine, according to R. E. Harrell, executive director of the

Duplin County Physician Recruitment, Inc., and administrator of Duplin General Hospital.

By Emily Killete

Charges against Warsaw Mayor Sam Godwin were dismissed by Judge F.T. Dupree, Chief U.S. District Judge, after Godwin testified on behalf of C. Gilmer Parrish of Dunn who had pleaded guilty on two counts of the indictment of six charges.

During the hearing Monday, evidence was presented which established that Godwin had received no monetary benefit as the contractor of Johnston County Memorial Nursing Center, and had not conspired with Parrish to inflate the construction costs of the nursing center on a cost report which was submitted to H.E.W.

Parrish and Godwin were indicted by a grand jury on six charges of attempting to defraud the federal government by inflating the cost of building the nursing center. Parrish pleaded guilty to two counts, and other charges were dropped by Judge Dupree and Assistant

District Attorney Jack B. Crawley, Jr.

Godwin was released of all charges following the explanation of certain checks paid to Parrish during the building of the Johnston County Memorial Nursing Center for amounts of \$75,000, and establishing that Godwin had not helped in any way to prepare cost reports which were submitted to Blue Cross and Blue Shield, which acts as agency of H.E.W. on Medicaid and Medicare costs. The cost of the building of the nursing home, along with other factors, such as the interest on the loans to construct the facility, the daily patient care cost, and depreciation of the building, are considered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield when setting a rate of repayment to homes for patients on Medicare and Medicaid, testified an HEW auditor, Joseph Safaday. According to him, the costs of the Johnston County nursing home had been inflated with

costs from the building of Parrish's private residence, which was being constructed at the same time as the nursing home. The cost report submitted to Blue Cross and Blue Shield was inflated by \$142,221, which was found to be the cost of paint, shingles, concrete blocks, landscaping and other items used to build the Parrish residence, Donald A. Burgman, HEW investigator testified. Parrish later testified that the cost reports which were submitted to HEW with the inflated figures had been prepared by certified public accountants employed by him.

Three checks, two for \$25,000, were explained by Godwin as payment to Parrish for services as a subcontractor, and a third was for \$25,000 worth of stock in the Johnston County Memorial Nursing Center, which was part of the contract to build the facility, testified Godwin. Evidence showed that Parrish worked as a subcontractor for

Godwin and received \$50,000 for his services. Godwin received \$65,000 for his services which had been part of the contract.

Investigator Safaday testified that on the inflated cost of the building, the government overpaid \$19,345, \$16,040 on Medicaid patients, and \$3,341 on Medicare patients in 1976 alone, and for the three years, 1975-1977, the government overpaid Johnston Memorial Nursing Center \$40,035. Since the investigation in the Johnston Nursing Center, Memorial Nursing Center of N.C. and Parrish began a year ago, Parrish has paid the government \$60,000 in refunds.

As Parrish stood before Judge Dupree for sentencing, he commented that he

had not knowingly or willfully defrauded anyone or the government, and he would continue to repay any money which was due the government as the HEW audit of his books continued. Parrish,

who became licensed as an administrator of nursing homes after the construction of the nursing homes in Johnston County and Dunn, is the owner of the Memorial Centers Nursing of North Carolina, which has assisted in the construction of other nursing homes across the state.

Parrish was sentenced by Judge Dupree on counts three and four of the indictment, which were the charges of inflating the building costs, along with his corporation, the Memorial Nursing Centers of North Carolina. The corporation was fined \$10,000, and Parrish was sentenced to a three-year suspended sentence, along with a \$10,000 fine. As a condition of the three-year probation, Parrish is to participate in a community service, which will be specified by the probation office, one day each month. The community service will be outside of the nursing home and church activities.

### Kenansville Board

## Discuss Water Project At Meeting

By Emily Killete

During the monthly meeting of the Kenansville Town Board on Dec. 3, the commissioners, the mayor and the town administrator, Woody Brinson, answered questions concerning the proposed water project.

Brinson explained that the water system will pay for itself, and that taxes are not going to be affected by the system, according to the proposed plans. However, part of the plans for the water system does include a rate increase for water, which will go toward the payment of the bond from the FmHA. Also, a dual water rate will be required, which will help pay for the bond. The dual rate will separate residential users and commercial users, and charge different rates. The non-residential customers expected to be added with the completion of the system, will pay one-and-one-half times the rate charged residential customers. A third way the town proposes to pay the bond is through the savings in maintenance cost which is estimated at \$1,800, Brinson said.

According to Brinson, money to fund this project will come from a grant from the FmHA for \$356,500, with the town of Kenansville receiving \$170,000 in general obligation bonds from the FmHA, a North Carolina Clean Water grant for \$169,500 and a Coastal Plains Regional Commission grant for \$73,000, and the total cost will be \$769,000. Through the Coastal Plains Regional grant, the town will benefit from eight-inch lines, where the FmHA would only fund six-inch lines. The grant will also fund the difference between a 150,000- and a 250,000-gallon storage tank, Brinson said. The grant will supply additional waterlines to a planned apartment complex near Whaley's Rest Home. Plans are to build 20 apartments, four buildings each with four two-bedroom apartments, and one building with four one-bedroom apartments.

Brinson explained that the state Division of Health Services recommended that Kenansville space their

well-sites about a mile apart so the wells would not be supplied by the same stream. Sites which have been proposed but not tested are one mile outside of town on Highway 11 north, near the proposed industrial site on Highway 24, and near the new Kenansville Elementary School, Brinson said. However, he stated that the storage tanks are planned to be placed inside the town limits.

Mayor Douglas Judge assured citizens that the proposed water project in Kenansville did not relate to the planning of a county-wide water system unless the citizens in Kenansville wished to connect to the project. Brinson explained that the county had received a HUD grant to install a waterline from Kenansville town limits to Greeneyers and to the landfill near Rose Hill. The town would be asked to hook to the master meter at the Kenansville town limits, but would not have to supply water. Brinson explained that the master meter would meter

either way, allowing Kenansville to buy water if there arose a need for more water than the town pumps could supply.

Judge said, "If we had our users taken care of and the county could use the water, it would benefit the town to sell them the extra water."

Judge said that any agreement to furnish water for the county would give the citizens in Kenansville priority.

Brinson said the county commissioners and members of the Duplin planning board would meet with the Kenansville town commissioners to further discuss the possibility of connecting the HUD-funded line to the Kenansville system, in January.

A revitalization project of the Kenansville Area Chamber of Commerce was brought to the attention of the board by Brinson. He said he had been contacted by Kermit Anderson of CP&L, who had been working with the Chamber, to explain the project. The project is to change all downtown mercury vapor

lights to sodium vapor lights, which will show truer colors and give five percent more lights. However, the change will cost about \$400 a year more than the mercury lights. The board agreed to visit Warsaw or Clinton, where the downtowns have installed the proposed lights, and make a decision at the next meeting.

### Williams Announce Candidacy



Christine Williams

Mrs. Christine W. Williams has announced her candidacy for an eighth term as Duplin County Register of Deeds, a job she describes as creating and maintaining records of life and death and many of the most important events in the lives of people of Duplin County between birth and death.

In announcing her candidacy for another term, Mrs. Williams stated: "I am very grateful to the people of the County for giving me the opportunity to serve you as Register of Deeds since 1952 and I am running again on my record of service and experience. If re-elected to another term, I promise to continue to devote my energies to studying the laws affecting the office and study the best methods of record-keeping available to continue to create and maintain the best set of records possible to meet the ever-changing needs of the people. Your vote and support will be rewarded by the best efforts of myself and the fine people who are associated with me in the office."

## Board Of Education Appoints Panel To Review Fund Raising

A committee to review all requests for fund-raising projects for special school activities and to study past projects was named by the Board of Education last Tuesday at their regular meeting.

The committee includes board members Fred Rhodes and Graham Phillips. It also will include some school principals and some members of the administrative staff.

The action resulted from a request by the county board of commissioners to halt all selling projects in grades kindergarten through six.

Sales of candy, cookies, magazines, ball point pens, Christmas trees, yearbooks, doughnuts and calendars as well as bookfairs, car washes and other projects have been conducted periodically to pay for special school activities not funded under the regular budget.

Boardmember Patricia Broadrick made a motion that was approved by a 4-1 vote to invite the county commissioners to discuss the question of sales projects with the school board. Rhodes voted against the motion. Voting for it were Phillips, Mrs. Broadrick, Jimmy Strickland and E.L. Boyette.

Rhodes said the Halloween Festival at B.F. Grady school in October netted \$9,000.

Four counselors, a supervisor and secretary, have been hired to implement a special program funded by a \$125,000 CETA grant to assist disadvantaged and low-income students complete vocational courses. The primary goal, the board was informed, is to encour-

age these students to complete their training rather than to drop out due to discouragement or lack of interest.

The director is Austin Carter of Faison. Counselors are Ike Baker for Wallace-Rose Hill High School; Roma Kenan, East Duplin; Nadine Blanton, North Duplin; and Judy Malpass for James Kenan.

Gary Sanderson, asst. superintendent, reported a state accreditation committee reviewed Duplin schools last week and told

him the system will receive one level of state accreditation at present and a higher level of accreditation in July 1980.

Sanderson said reports on 65 high school graduates attending colleges at present showed a composite average grade of 2.65. A grade of A carries four points, B carries three points, and C carries two points.

Keith Hinson of Rose Hill was appointed to Charity School's advisory committee and E.C. Thompson, III of Warsaw to the James Kenan High School committee.

## Files For Re-Election

Doug Clark was elected Duplin County Representative for a two-year term in November of 1978. The next primary will be held May 6, 1980, with the final voting in November. Clark formally announced his candidacy for re-election on the east steps of the county courthouse in Kenansville Monday.

Clark won the seat in 1978 with 4,487 votes, defeating the incumbent Tommy Baker. While in Raleigh, Clark was seated on the House agriculture and education committees.

Clark said in his speech from the courthouse steps, "I have been your advocate by promoting Duplin County by word of deed all across this state, and by trying to get more elected and appointed officials to become aware of Duplin County's accomplishments and poten-



Doug Clark

As part of his effort to assist the county, Clark says he is working to achieve better roads, especially Highways 117 and 24, and to

obtain good connectors between I-40 and the Duplin towns. Clark is also part of the Physician Recruitment Committee, which has been successful in recruiting two young physicians to Duplin County, with both planning to practice in Warsaw.

**Only  
11  
DAYS  
'til Christmas**

## Farmers To Vote On Referendum Dec. 18

By David English

Flue-cured tobacco growers will cast their votes for the future of acreage allotments and marketing quotas on Dec. 18. The referendum covers 1980, 1981 and 1982 marketing years, and requires a two-thirds majority of the votes cast to carry. ASCS estimates show about 125,000 growers in North Carolina will be eligible to vote in the referendum.

The Tobacco Associates will conduct a referendum in conjunction with the marketing quota referendum. Tobacco Associates, Inc., is the farmers' organization which promotes expanded export marketing of

flue-cured tobacco.

Polling places have been designated by each county ASCS office in counties where flue-cured tobacco is grown.

Polling places in Duplin County are: A-Albertson, Albertson Fire House; B-Cypress Creek, Mill Swamp Community Building; C-Faison, Faison City Hall; D-Glisson, W.E. (Bill) Waller's Store; E-Island Creek, G.B. Hanchey's Store; F-Kenansville, Duplin County ASCS Office; G-Limestone, Beulaville Town Hall; H-Magnolia, Magnolia Town Hall; J-Rockfish, Rockfish Community Building; K-Rose Hill, Rose Hill Town Hall; L-Smith, J.D. Kennedy's Store; M-Warshaw, Old Warsaw

Town Hall; and N-Wolfscrape, Oak Wolfe Fire Department.

ASC Community Referendum Committee members will conduct the referendums at 689 polling places in North Carolina from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on the announced date.

A "Yes" vote by producers will guarantee acreage-poundage marketing quotas for the next three flue-cured crops and price support availability for eligible tobacco growers. A "No" vote will mean unlimited production possibilities and no price support.

Producers overwhelmingly favored acreage allotments and marketing quotas three years ago by 99 percent "Yes" votes.