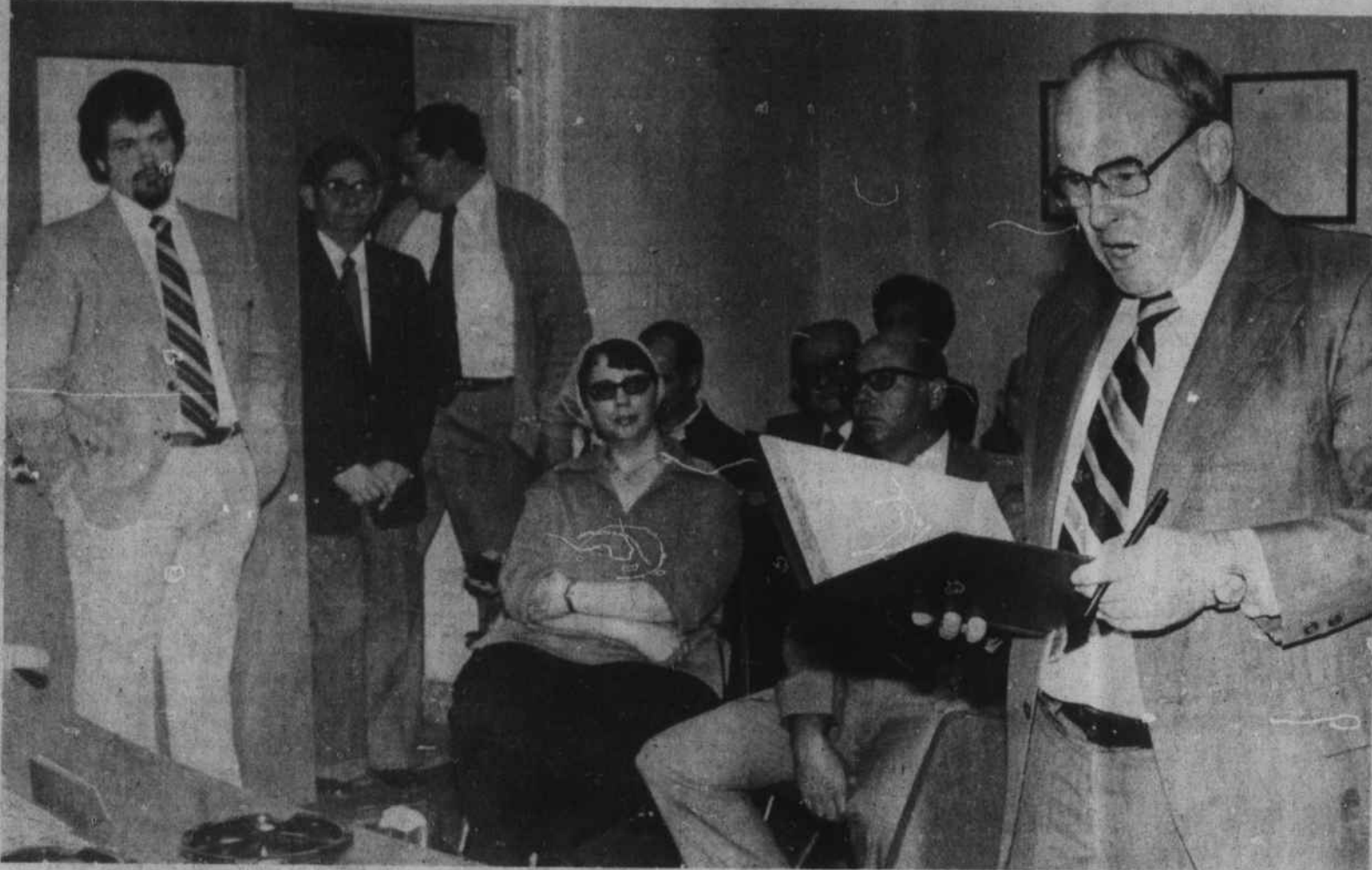


Duplin Times

PROGRESS SENTINEL

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NOT A GOOD PIECE OF ART - Parents of students attending East Duplin High School met with Duplin County commissioners to voice their opposition to a drama presented by the N.C. School of the Arts and a film shown in a Future Homemakers of America meeting. Spokesman Aldis Deaver of Albertson, pictured in the right corner, addressed several questions to Duplin Arts Council Director Mark Monday, pictured in the left corner, during the meeting. Monday replied that before there could be

a reaction to stop the performance of "This Is The Rill Speaking," a 30-minute production, it was over. Several teachers had walked out during the performance, but Monday added that the Arts Council does not condone vulgarity on a school stage, and the performance was not a good piece of art. Letters of apology have been sent to the teachers, students and principal at East Duplin, Monday said, along with a public letter of apology in the newspapers.

School Board Budget Proposal

A preliminary 1980-81 county school budget of \$3,363,650 was presented to the Board of Education Wednesday night. The proposed amount represents an increase of 103% over the current year's sum of \$1,654,430 from local funds. The total preliminary budget proposal, including state and federal funding, amounts to \$17,519,183.

After reviewing the preliminary requests, the board returned the budget to the administrative staff for further study.

The current-expense portion of the proposal totals \$2,024,232, an increase of 34% over the present expense budget of \$1,509,430. The current-expense proposal calls for 10% salary increase for all county-paid school personnel. Requested for capital outlay was \$1,349,418.

In recent years, most capital outlay funds have come from federal revenue sharing, which amounted to \$500,000 to \$850,000 a year, according to the request. Last year the school system received 47% of the county's ad valorem tax total of \$5,016,000.

Victor Tucker, school finance officer, said detailed comparisons between the 1979-80 and 1980-81 budget figures are difficult because

chase of 5.447 acres of land at the Wallace-Rose Hill High School site. Also requested is \$34,000 for tennis courts at James Kenan and North Duplin, \$88,000 for computer equipment and furniture, \$132,000 for school buses, truck and tractors, and \$12,000 for new plumbing at Charity Middle School. The state has changed the budget forms.

The capital outlay request includes \$850,000 for a six-classroom and media center addition to James Kenan High School and \$100,000 to connect the school with the Warsaw sewer system. It also includes \$21,304 for pur-

Disaster Victims Meet With Small Business Representative

Small Business Administration Representative Hank Brinkley, recommended that Duplin be declared a disaster area. Brinkley visited Duplin County last week and toured poultry farms hurt by the snow storm. Duplin Emergency Services Director Hiram Brinson furnished Brinkley with estimates of storm damage to Duplin farms. Brinkley commented that the figures he received from Brinson appeared to be a good estimate of the damage in Duplin County.

Following a meeting with some poultry farmers and Duplin commissioners on Tuesday, Brinkley said he would call the figures of estimated damage to Duplin to the Charlotte SBA office and recommend that Duplin be declared a disaster area. The request and figures would be sent through the SBA office in Atlanta and on to Washington where, Brinkley said, Congress would act upon the request to appropriate funds for disaster victims in Duplin. Brinkley said he expected a reply within two or three days.

"From my past experience with the SBA, I don't foresee any difficulty with Congress declaring Duplin a disaster area," Brinkley said. "And at the time that we get notification from Congress, we will also know the interest rate of the disaster loans."

According to Brinkley, interest on loans through the SBA since October has been 8½%, but the rate of interest for disaster victims in Duplin would be set by Congress at the same time funds are appropriated for the loans.

At the time of notification from Congress, a SBA loan officer will meet with disaster victims in the county. The loan officer will distribute and explain how to complete SBA loan applications, Brinkley said. SBA makes loans just like any other lending institution, except its interest is lower, Brinkley said. And in order to qualify for such loans, Brinkley said the applicant must have a loss due to the snow storm, must have the ability to repay the loan, and must have collateral. Loss verifiers, employees from the SBA, will work with disaster victims to set individual loss figures to be used when applying for loans, Brinkley said.

Farmers who were present said they had to clean up and rebuild their poultry houses. The farmers were instructed to take pictures of the damage before cleaning up. Brinkley also recommended that the farmers keep all invoices from building supplies as both the pictures and invoices could be used by loss verifiers to determine the farmer's loss.

Brinkley informed the farmers present that the SBA would not lend money to pay off loans of higher interest which the farmer may have been paying off before the storm. However, the SBA will lend money to pay off short-term emergency loans that the farmer may have borrowed to rebuild after the storm.

Loan applications will have to be completed by the farmer because the SBA does not have enough personnel to work one-to-one with applicants, Brinkley said. He added that a reply from loan applications containing all the necessary information would take about three to four weeks.

Farmers inquired about the possibility of the county furnishing people to aid the disaster victims in filling out SBA loan applications. Commissioners D.J. Fussell and William Costin agreed that the county should be able to help the loan applicants and speed up the loan process. The commissioners were instructed to contact the SBA District Director Larry B. Cherry for information about providing to SBA loan applicants.

East Duplin Parents Petition Against Film Shown At FHA School Meeting

Sex, devoid of morals, and infringement on the rights of parents were the criticisms fourteen Albertson citizens brought before the Duplin County commissioners at the Monday morning meeting.

Parents of students at East Duplin High School presented the commissioners with petitions against a film shown at the high school in January during a FHA meeting. The parents also voiced opposition to the 30-minute presentation of "This is the Rill Speaking," performed by the seniors of the North Carolina School of the Arts, which was scheduled through the Duplin County Arts Council and shown at the high school in February.

Appearing before the commissioners as spokesman for the group of parents was Aldis Deaver of Albertson. Deaver asked Duplin County Arts Council Director Mark Monday if it were true that teachers at the school walked

out during the production by the School of the Arts.

"Yes, it is true. It was an unfit production, but I want to remind you that it was not produced by the Duplin County Arts Council," Monday said. "We have sponsored about 270 programs in public schools since 1975, all of which have been screened in the same way as the production at East Duplin by the School of the Arts."

"The Arts Council doesn't condone vulgarity of any kind in the schools or on the school stage. And the production shown at East Duplin was not a good piece of art," Monday stated.

Monday stated that letters of apology had appeared in newspapers and had been sent to the East Duplin teachers, students and principal. A letter had also been sent by Monday to Dean Malcolm Morrison of the N.C. School of the Arts in which Monday asked the performances be reviewed more closely. Monday called for a more careful screening

of material which would be presented in public high schools, and called the play at East Duplin "undesirable work," while he praised the next day's performance by the School of the Arts for their production at Wallace-Rose Hill High School.

Deaver said, "This is not the first time something like this has happened. There was a film shown at a FHA meeting at East Duplin in January. And we would like to know if these two things were coincidental, and you (Monday) have told us that they are coincidence. However, we (parents) can't support or sustain such programs in our schools."

Superintendent of Duplin Schools C.H. Yelverton responded that both the film and drama presentations at East Duplin were unfortunate mistakes. But the contribution of "wholesome" material by the Arts Council should more than pay for their mistake, he added.

"We also do not condone such programs in our schools. In order to teach, we must maintain the respect of the students and the community," Yelverton said.

Jackie Stroud of Albertson offered petitions from Albertson area churches stating, "We, the taxpayers and parents of Duplin County do hereby voice our strong opposition to the teaching of sex, devoid of morals, in our county school system." The petition continued to state, "We do hereby declare that our rights as parents have been infringed upon in the form of movies, performances, pamphlets, etc., provided for our children without our consent."

"I would like to present these petitions with 190 signatures to the county commissioners, and more are in the mail," Stroud said. "These petitions are related to the film teaching sexual permissiveness which was shown at a January meeting of the East Duplin FHA."

"We come here in opposition to such films as the one shown to our children which

Two Women Killed

Two women were killed in a truck-car collision near Beulaville Monday while on their way to work at National Spinning's Beulaville textile plant.

Dead were Evelyn Holmes Tyndall, 44, and her sister, Mary Holmes Hutchens, 41, both of Route 1, Pink Hill.

Driver of the loaded logging truck was Ronnie Dean Bugg of Route 6, Goldsboro. He was injured and taken to Duplin General in Kenansville for treatment.

Trooper J.N. Ray, who investigated, said both vehicles were traveling south on N.C. 41. The car, driven by Mrs. Tyndall, started to make a left turn onto State Road 1722. It was struck in the side. The vehicles traveled 286 feet after the impact. The car was pushed into a large drainage ditch. The truck came to rest on top of the car. A crane being used in construction work at the National Spinning Co. plant was used to separate the vehicles.

The investigation was being continued late Monday and no charges had been filed.

FmHA Approves Disaster Loans For Duplin

The Farmers Home Administration authorized granting of low-interest disaster aid loans to eligible farmers of Duplin, Pender and three neighboring counties this past week, according to Duplin FmHA Supervisor J.M. Mills.

He added that more than 50 persons have already made inquiries about the possibility of obtaining such help.

Duplin farmers took the worst beating from the snowstorm with damages estimated at more than \$10 million.

Mills explained FmHA will make 5 percent loans to farmers who are unable to obtain necessary credit to rebuild damaged buildings and equipment. The disaster loans may only be used to rebuild the farming operation to the same size and scope as before the disaster, he added.

FmHA will also make standard loans to eligible farmers at higher rates of interest. Interest on those loans varies with the money market he said. He said the rate last Wednesday was 11 percent.

FmHA has considerable flexibility in assisting farmers, he noted.

"We sit down with each applicant to determine the amount of the actual loss and to work out the best arrangements," Mills added.

He also commented, "I do not see any particular funding problem for emergency loans in the county."

Mills expects possibly 75 applications from Duplin farmers. Some of the farmers lost all of their poultry houses. At least 138 poultry houses have been destroyed or damaged too severely to be repaired. Many others have been damaged but can be repaired.



CANCER KICK-OFF - The Duplin County chapter of the American Cancer Society held a kick-off dinner for the 1980 fund drive and Cancer Crusade month in April. Speaking to the group was Anne Houston of Kenansville, who is a graduate student at East Carolina in the school of nursing. The goal set by the Duplin County chapter is

\$12,000, which they plan to raise during March and April. Pictured above, guest speaker Ann Houston, Duplin Cancer Society President Mary Sue Thompson of Warsaw, Kenansville Fund Drive Chairman Zan Stepp, Chairman of the Cancer Fund Drive Beth Brinson of Kenansville, and Beulaville Fund Drive Chairman Eleanor Weston.

AAUW Meeting

The third organizational meeting of the American Association of University Women will be Thursday, March 27 at the Kenansville United Methodist Church beginning at 7 p.m.

Speaking to the group will be Karen Dawes, sociology instructor at James Sprunt Technical College. Dawes will discuss the changing family unit. After the talk on family life, a report will be received from the nominating committee and the session will follow concerning the best meeting time for the AAUW.

Any woman with a baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university is eligible for membership and is invited to attend the meeting

Extension Workshops

Mae H. Spicer, home economics extension agent, has announced a slipcover workshop to be held March 26-27. Registration is required as only 12-15 persons can be accommodated. Call 296-1995.

A blouse workshop will be held is scheduled for April 1 & 2. Some sewing skill is necessary, and registration is required. Machines will be furnished and eight will be the limit of the class.