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COURSE CERTIFIES RADIOLOGICAL DEFENSE OFFICERS - James Sprunt Technical College hosted a 40-hour course for radiological defense officers recently. The course provided basic knowledge and skills to qualify individuals to be local Civil Preparedness radiological defense officers. Tonia L. Young, instructor (R) demon-

strates shielding qualities to students (L to R) Tommy Linkous, Brunswick County; Gary T. Cook and Dorothy M. Cavanaugh, both of Duplin County. Four types of shields were used — wood, brick, sand and lead. The demonstration showed lead was the best shield against highly radioactive cobalt 60.

Primary 1980

Candidates In The Running

Christine Williams Register Of Deeds

By Emily Killette

It takes long-range planning to improve old records and secure them for the future, Register of Deeds Christine Williams said.

There are ten different sets of records in the Duplin County register of deeds office and all records covering the past 230 years are microfilmed, Mrs. Williams said. And, microfilm copies are stored in a local bank and a security underground vault in Pennsylvania and a third copy of the microfilm in cassettes is available for public use at the register of deeds office. According to Mrs. Williams, Duplin is one of very few counties which can probate and record documents immediately while the person waits. And all documents can be located instantly in the deeds office, she added. In addition, worn books have been restored and rebound and documents are presently being filed in smaller indestructible plastic books. The office also offers laminated plastic or paper birth certificates, Mrs. Williams added.

"The first year I was elected as register of deeds in 1952, I started working on a long-range plan for this office to improve the old records," Mrs. Williams said. "And in 1958, the courthouse annex was

started and my office was built to meet the plan I had worked out. We moved in the annex in 1960, and since then it has been renovated, but our office required no structural changes, and the office staff has increased only by one person since 1952."

Mrs. Williams said her plan for the register of deeds office had included the restoration and microfilming of all records and after 26 years, a secure microfilming program had been developed for Duplin County. Records which are brought into the register of deeds office are recorded in books, but, Mrs. Williams added, the same records are microfilmed immediately by the office staff.

"Each employee is trained to perform all the services offered by the register of deeds office. This keeps the office going when someone is out. However, each person does have a specific job which they do unless they are needed in another area," Mrs. Williams said.

"We are here to protect the property of other people, and this office checks and rechecks not only our own work, but the work of the attorneys' offices."

"This job is very rewarding, because I know that we are creating permanent records for each citizen who comes into our office," Mrs.



Christine Williams

Williams said.

Mrs. Williams is a Duplin County native, born in Magnolia; her family moved to Kenansville, where she was valedictorian of the 1932 Kenansville High School graduating class. After high school, she enrolled in and completed a two-year home study business course from Southeastern University, Rock Hill, S.C. She is a graduate of a county administration course of the University of North Carolina

at Chapel Hill.

Before settling into the role of homemaker, Mrs. Williams worked eight years in the management of the County Farm office, which is now the ASC office. This year is the 28th year Mrs. Williams has served as register of deeds, having begun her first term in 1952.

Mrs. Williams says she is proud of her record of service to Duplin County over the past 28 years.

School Budget Ready To Be Presented

The Duplin County Board of Education voted Thursday night to present a proposed 1980-81 budget of \$3,332,650 to the county Board of Commissioners.

The current expense portion of the proposed budget is 34% higher than the present current expense budget of \$1,509,430.

The board is also asking for a \$1,349,418 capital outlay budget. The total would represent about \$850,000 more than the appropriation for capital outlay in the current fiscal year.

During the meeting, the board cut about \$53,000 from the budget proposal of \$3,373,650 from county funds by eliminating a request for a computer and one additional employee.

Board members Jimmy Strickland, Graham Phillips

and E.L. Boyette voted to submit the proposal to the county commissioners next month. Board members Patricia Broadrick and Fred Rhodes were in opposition, saying the school board should make more of the cuts it expects will be made by the commissioners.

Much of Duplin's federal revenue-sharing money has gone into school construction, but the program faces severe cutbacks under the federal budget. Without those funds, board members indicated they probably won't get any more construction funds in the immediate future. Last year the schools received \$650,000 from the county's revenue-sharing allotment. Most of this has gone into the Kenansville Elementary School scheduled to open in

the fall.

Boyette suggested the board eliminate \$850,000 proposed for the James Kenan High School addition to bring the capital outlay budget into line with the current budget, but no action was taken.

The present budget proposal would amount to just over 50% of the county's ad valorem tax collection for the year. The 1979-80 fiscal year school budget required 47% of the county's ad valorem tax revenue.

County Hires New Librarian

Roberta Scott (Bobbi) Williams from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro has been hired as director for the Duplin

County Dorothy Wightman Library.

Williams will begin work in Duplin County in late April; presently she is employed at the Jackson Library at UNC-G where she is assistant serials librarian and where she has worked as reference librarian. Before working at the University library, Williams was employed at the Greensboro Public Library.

Bobbi Williams attended Longwood College in Virginia where she received a B.A. in English and secondary education. She later received her M.A. from UNC-Chapel Hill in English and in 1962 she received her M.A. in Library Science from the University of Denver. Williams also has a reading and speaking knowledge of Spanish, and she is able to read French as well as speak some Hausa.

During 1965-68, Williams was librarian at Ohio University, and during this time she headed the USAID project at the Advanced Teachers College in Kano, Nigeria. As head of the project, she planned a new library and equipped it. She organized the library collection for use by the faculty and students, trained the staff and student assistants, and taught courses in library science for advanced students. Before starting her work with Ohio University, Williams worked as reference librarian at Kern County Free Library in Bakersfield, California, where she also worked at Bakersfield College. Williams has also served as an English instructor at Glenville State College.

Ms. Williams, from Saxapahaw, will begin work in late April.

Ann Hunter Register Of Deeds

There are ways that the register of deeds office can be made into a self-supporting office, said candidate for Register of Deeds, Ann Hunter of Chinquapin.

"Most other counties have self-supporting register of deeds offices, and if I am elected, I want to make the Duplin Register of Deeds office self-supporting," Mrs. Hunter said. "There are ways that it can be done in Duplin, and I intend to bring those ideas out later in my campaign."

If elected register of deeds, Mrs. Hunter said she plans to make the office more efficient and stretch the dollar as far as possible.

"I will work to get the job done for the least amount of money. Times are getting harder and the dollar is getting tighter every day, and I plan to be conservative with the spending of money from the county citizens," Mrs. Hunter said. "I don't

intend to cut down on the quality and service the office offers now. But most of all, I would like to have a chance to try and save this county some money."

"This is my first venture into politics, but I have always thought that there should be at least two people running for every elected office, to give the citizens a choice," Mrs. Hunter said.

Ann A. Hunter is married to Mac D. Hunter and they have two sons. Mrs. Hunter is a 1958 graduate of Chinquapin High School and she has attended schools for courses in tax laws and computer programming.

Mrs. Hunter has worked the past two years as a computer operator for the county. Before moving to computer operations, she worked in the county tax office for two years. Prior to working for the county, Mrs. Hunter was employed in textiles for ten years. She



Ann Hunter

worked at both National Spinning and Dupont as an operator, training instructor,

quality control officer, lab technician and supervisor.

Kenansville Native Wins High Award At Panama City, Florida

Senior Chief Signalman Jack M. Kennedy, a native of Kenansville, has been cited by the commanding officer and technical director of the Naval Coastal Systems Center in Panama City, Fla., where he is now stationed. Kennedy, who heads the special services division at NCSC, won the annual award for special achievement for his professional competence and enthusiastic support of Center personnel.

His citation reads: "Under difficult, time-constricting pressures and changing management philosophies, SMCS Kennedy has executed his responsibilities and led and directed his subordinates in their performance in an exemplary manner, thus providing integrated and thorough response to numerous facility expansions, customer demands, and externally generated special requirements. He has streamlined his organization to be responsive, established closer control, and demanded higher performance from his subordinates. This has resulted in an extremely successful year in the Special Services

planning, an accomplishment for this Center and tenant commands.

"SMCS Kennedy's outstanding expertise in the areas of personnel management, facilities planning and financial management in the continuous operation of the SSD are recognized throughout the Center community. He has, by example, set a standard of excellence in the Special Services Division. Such performance has contributed greatly to improving the services provided."

Kennedy grew up in Kenansville and joined the Navy soon after graduation from high school in 1958. His first assignment after basic training at Great Lakes was at the U.S. Naval Academy where he maintained the admiral's barge. Kennedy said that tours aboard various ships home ported at Newport, Norfolk, Key West, New Orleans and Naples, Italy — and shore duty at interesting locations in the U.S. — have given him the variety of experience and the challenges he sought when he joined the Navy.

"And the challenges get

more interesting as I go along," he said, recounting an unusual 30-month tour with the Armed Forces Police Detachment in Washington, D.C., where he coordinated individual court dockets.

When Kennedy arrived at NCSC in November 1978 from a 3-year tour as staff signalman with Commander Amphibious Squadron Four at Little Creek, Va., he faced another challenge: to become a special services officer. Following a two-week specialized course in recreational management in Alameda, Calif., he took charge. His citation tells how.

Kennedy's wife, Louella, is a native of Charleston, W.Va. They live in Lynn Haven with their three children — Erin Kathleen, 12, a seventh grader at Mowat Jr. High; Rebecca, 10, a fifth grader; and Danny, 8, a second grader at Lynn Haven Elementary School.

Kennedy's sister, Mrs. Carl (Iris) Powell, and his brother, Keith Kennedy, live in Kenansville.

Beulaville Water/Sewage Referendum March 29

The town of Beulaville will hold a bond election on March 29 seeking the authority to issue bonds to finance improvements to the water distribution system, and waste water treatment and collection system.

The waste water treatment upgrade is mandatory under the Environmental Protection Agency guidelines because the present treatment system has been condemned. Beulaville is operating on temporary permits which have been issued with the understanding that the treatment plant will be upgraded in the near future. Upgrading can be done by the approval of the bonds with the town receiving grants from various federal and state agencies for 87.5%

of the total construction cost. In conjunction with the waste water treatment facilities improvements, the collection system also needs upgrading, said Town Supervisor H.L. Brown, so that all areas of the town will have access to sewer service.

The water system improvements will install six-inch water lines in areas where smaller lines exist or where no lines exist. Fifty additional fire hydrants will also be installed. This will provide adequate water and water pressure to protect the lives and property of all the town citizens, Brown said. The two projects can be funded from federal and state grants in the amount of 25% of the total cost, and the town commissioners are

seeking additional grants from the Farmers Home Administration. All construction data has been reviewed and approved by the town commissioners, who say that they are available to answer questions from the townspeople concerning the two projects.

The combined cost of the projects is \$1,163,800, and grants from the state and EPA will total \$563,950, while the local cost will be \$499,850. EPA will be paying \$464,250 for the waste water treatment project and a stage grant will fund \$77,375. Combined the projects will be 87.5% funded. State grants will be paying 25% of the water system improvements and wastewater

collection system, with the town being responsible for the remaining 75%.

Town officials say the bond election, if passed, will not increase taxes; however there will be some increase in water and sewer rates. The rate increase will depend on how much grant money the town receives from FmHA. However, if the bond election fails and EPA forces Beulaville to upgrade the waste water treatment system, the town will have to raise additional revenue in order to meet the EPA guidelines.

"Our town has been recognized for excellence in the past, and now we must prepare for excellence in the future," said Mayor Marion Edwards.