

# Duplin Times

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**RECOGNIZED IN CRIME BITER CONTEST** - The state-wide "Crime Biter" contest, sponsored through Governor Jim Hunt's efforts to reduce crime in North Carolina, recognized Nan Williamson of Kenansville and her dog Frisky. Nan entered a story featuring her pet dog as a crime-fighter. Frisky had helped to catch a gas thief in a

neighbor's yard. The contest was part of the fight against crime campaign which involved school children, and was publicized in the public school system. Nan is the daughter of Judge and Mrs. Steve Williamson of Kenansville. Nan and Frisky are both eleven years of age. Frisky is a dalmatian.

## Few Farmers Apply For Snow Damage SBA Loans

A representative of the Small Business Administration in Kenansville last week to hand out low-interest loans to poultry and livestock farmers hurt by the March snows, was surprised and disturbed to find few persons interested in what he had to offer.

Although SBA would be able to make 5 percent loans to most of the affected farmers, only 11 applications have been submitted and only nine persons showed up to get information during a local visit last week, according to Hank Brinkley, a member of SBA's loan administration division in Charlotte.

Brinkley said he is concerned that eligible farmers either have confused SBA's program with that of FmHA or have forgotten the task of rebuilding their poultry and livestock businesses under the pressure of spring planting. Unlike FmHA loans, which are based strictly on financial need, Brinkley said, SBA loans are based on the amount of damage a farmer sustained. Therefore, even a farmer who has sufficient savings to repair the damage he suffered probably could qualify for one of the administration's low-interest loans, he said.

To qualify for a loan, a farmer must only be able to document the damage he suffered, provide some sort of acceptable collateral and have sufficient means to pay off the loan, Brinkley said.

If a farmer is in doubt as to whether he actually needs a loan, he should go ahead and apply for it before the May 23 deadline, Brinkley said. Loan approval takes approximately five weeks, after which time the farmer can request a six-month extension. Until the end of the extension, the farmer does not have to pay interest on the loan because he has not yet received the money, but the funds are there at any

time he decides he wants them, Brinkley said.

At the end of the first six months, a farmer may request a second six-month extension, Brinkley said. He still pays no interest until he actually receives the amount of the loan. If at any time he decides he doesn't want the

loan after all, Brinkley said, the farmer may cancel his application with no penalty.

"We want to do everything we legally can do to help," Brinkley said. But anyone who does not apply for a loan before the May 23 deadline will be ineligible for this form of disaster assis-

tance at a later date, he said.

Because of the low turnout during his visit last week, Brinkley said he doubts he will return to Duplin County again before the deadline. But anyone who has questions about the program or who wants to get an application may call the SBA toll-free at 1-800-532-0368.

## First Annual Spring Arts And Crafts And Music Festival

The James Kenan District Band Booster's Club is extending an invitation to participate in the first annual Spring Arts and Crafts Fair and Music Festival to be held May 10 from 12 noon until 5 p.m. at William R. Kenan, Jr. Memorial Amphitheatre in Kenansville.

Music by Duplin County band students will sound out from the stage of the LIBERTY CART amphitheatre. March, concert, pop and stage band music will be presented by elementary, junior and senior high students from East Duplin, North Duplin and James Kenan school districts.

Opening the Liberty Cart Festival of Band Music will be beginning students of the JK district. First on their program will be "Processional Grand March," "Fe-Fi-Fo-Fum," "Chester," "Aura Lee," and "Beautiful Spring." Students from E.E. Smith Jr. High will be spotlighted in "Join The Parade," Warsaw Jr. High students will perform "Castles in Spain." For novelty, the students will close with "Krazy Klock" and "Safari."

The advanced band members from JK district have prepared "Bandology" for their opening march. Concert numbers are "Chester," "Stage Wars" and "Brass Movement." New to this district is the

inclusion of stage band music represented by "How Deep Is Your Love" and "Feelings." The band students have selected pop music from a wide variety of sources. The Beatles, television themes, Latin American, themes of love, and disco music.

At 2:30, East Duplin band students will perform in the amphitheatre opening with a Fugue by Handel. Their pop selections may range from "Hogan's Heroes March," "Theme from Mork and Mindy," "Cocacabana" and "Theme from Rocky."

The North Duplin Band, playing at 3:15, will open with "Ringmaster," "Kaleidoscope" and "King Cotton Marches." The Toy Symphony, using recorder instruments, will serve as a humorous look at classical music. Pop selections to be played include "Highlights from the Broadway musical Show Boat," and "Fifth of Beethoven." On May 12, the ND Elementary band students will perform their spring concert at 7:30 in the ND Elementary School. A preview will be heard at the LIBERTY CART Music Festival.

The James Kenan Swing Choir, under the direction of Valerie McCoy, is in its second year. They host the JK annual Talent Show and James Sprunt Technical College Spring Festival.

Upon request they perform for community activities. This year the group has expanded to add a new sound of instrumentalists.

They will perform at the Music Festival May 10 at 4:15 p.m. At this time they will present only part of their program.

You can see more of the Swing Choir program at the Junior High Spring Concert May 22 at Kenan Memorial Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

Their entire performance will be held at James Kenan Spring Concert on Thursday, May 29th. This program will also be at Kenan Memorial Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.

You are invited to come out and see the 1980 Swing Choir. They have a lot of new moves and sounds.

Hot dogs, popcorn and cold drinks will be sold. Anyone may purchase a space for \$10 to display or sell arts, crafts, baked goods or other items. For additional information, call 296-1984, 296-1364, 296-0221, and/or 293-7969.

You are urged to come to the first annual Spring Arts and Crafts Fair and Music Festival at the Amphitheatre on May 10 from 12-5 p.m. to support the band students and directors who have worked hard throughout the school year.

## Food Stamp Program In Jeopardy

# Fate Depends On Congress

By Emily Killete

Households that receive monthly allotments of food stamps may face the reduction or the complete cancellation of their coupons in June, said Rebecca Lockamy, Duplin County Food Stamp Supervisor.

According to Lockamy, a notice from the State Department of Human Resources has informed Duplin Social Services that unless Congress appropriates additional funds for the food stamp program by May 15, recipients of food coupons will face a reduction in the amount of stamps they receive or a complete suspension of stamps effective June 1.

"If stamps are reduced," Lockamy said, "then the maximum allotment will be reduced by the same percentage in each household." She added that the reduction would be equal in each household to avoid any one group from bearing the complete burden of the loss of food stamps. "For an example, if the allotment in one household is cut by 25% then the allotment in every household will be cut by 25%," she said.

"With the May stamps, we included a notice explaining that there is a great possibility that the coupons will be reduced or cancelled for one or more months. And, we encouraged families to use the May stamps wisely," Lockamy said.

In April, Lockamy said, 1,827 households received food stamps worth \$185,650. The total number of persons in Duplin receiving food stamps was 5,562 and the average household included about three persons. According to Lockamy, the number of households receiving stamps went down in April, but the amount of stamps increased. She attributed the increase to larger households receiving food coupons in April.

Lockamy added that the number of persons receiving food stamps has steadily increased each month since the program began in July of 1972. At the present time, 13.9% of Duplin's population receives food stamps. In the

last year, \$2,013,366 was paid out in food stamps to people in Duplin, she said, and the average monthly disbursements equalled \$167,780. In April of 1979, the Duplin Social Services Department issued \$134,794 in food coupons, and by April of 1980, the amount of coupons issued equalled \$185,650. The yearly average of households receiving food coupons was 1,784.

After the Duplin Social Services Department is notified of action taken by Congress to appropriate additional funds for the food stamp program, Lockamy said, Duplin households will be notified. She added that no household receiving food coupons will lose their bene-

fits without notification.

"The only alternative these people will have if the food stamp program is canceled will be assistance through volunteer groups such as a church, because I do not know of any government program which could help them," Lockamy said.

Lockamy added, the new fiscal year begins in July of 1980 and the program should be back to normal. However, she pointed out that the notice from the State Department of Human Resources indicated that the food stamp program faced a cancellation or reduction of benefits for one or months effective June 1, 1980.

Included in the notice, Lockamy said, was a state-

ment which indicated that if benefits were reduced and a surplus of funds resulted, the state would disburse the surplus funds on an equal basis to all households receiving stamps. However, she added, the reduced or canceled stamps, if effective in June, could not be applied for after the program returns to normal. And, any household which feels their stamps have been unfairly reduced, when compared to similar households, can request a fair hearing, Lockamy said. A fair hearing of the complaint starts at the local office, and if the problem is not solved to the satisfaction of all, the complaint is taken to the state level for a final decision.

## Play Ball

# Magnolia Ball Park Opens

Play Ball! . . . The new ballpark in Magnolia will be ready for use by the end of the week, said Mayor Melvin Pope.

"The ballfield is complete, but most softball is played at night, and the lights will have to go up before the field will be of much use," Pope said. "We also have to build some bleachers and place out at the field."

According to Pope, the lights will be installed by the end of this week, but no plans for the immediate use of the field have been made. He added that both Warsaw and Wallace citizens have inquired into the possibility of using the field for a softball tournament. And, Pope said, once the ballpark is complete, the co-ordination of the recreational activities on the field will be left up to the town recreation commission. However, Pope said, he hopes the recreation commission will be forming a softball league for the Magnolia area, as well as other sports programs.

The construction of the Magnolia recreation park began over a year ago, Pope said. The town received a matching grant for \$15,000 from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, covering 50 percent of the total project cost of \$30,000. The project included a softball field, but not the lights for the field, two tennis courts, and a picnic area. Through a \$5,000 donation and funds

from the town, Pope said lights for the softball field have been purchased. However, because of the cost of the lights, the town is unsure whether it can afford to hire a recreation director for the new park.

"Since the ballfield will be ready for use this week, and if the field is used," Pope said, "the town will need to hire someone this summer to look after the park and make sure it does not get torn up."

Work on the set of two tennis courts has just begun, Pope said, and they are expected to be finished by the fall. While working on the park, the mayor added, the gym has been available for rent by groups, and the auditorium has been undergoing renovations.

"The auditorium is 90 percent complete. We are in the process of refinishing the damaged seats, selecting drapes for the windows, and installing a heating system and restrooms," Pope said. "An auditorium commission will be appointed soon to set up guidelines for the public use of the building, and they will establish a rental rate for the building."

The renovation of the old Magnolia school auditorium was made possible by a federal grant paying 90 percent of the \$35,000 needed for repairs on the building, Pope said. The remaining 10 percent of the cost was paid by the town, he added.

According to Pope, the auditorium will seat about 500 people, and the town hopes to be able to rent the building and make only enough to pay for its maintenance. Pope estimates that the auditorium will be ready for use in June.

At the present time, no organized recreational activities are held in Magnolia, but Pope said that with the

addition of the park he hopes to see softball, baseball, tennis, volleyball, and basketball leagues started for the surrounding area. He pointed out that a recreation program in Magnolia would not be for the purpose of making money, but Pope said that he hoped the program would at least break even.

## Child Killed In Wreck

Two-year-old Tomike Murphy of Route 1, Magnolia, was killed Saturday night in a two-vehicle collision on N.C. 11, just north of Kenansville. Six other persons were injured in the

accident, which occurred when a car making a left turn collided with a second car and overturned, according to a report by investigating Hiway Patrol Trooper Billy Floyd.

## Teen Victim Of Hit And Run Driver

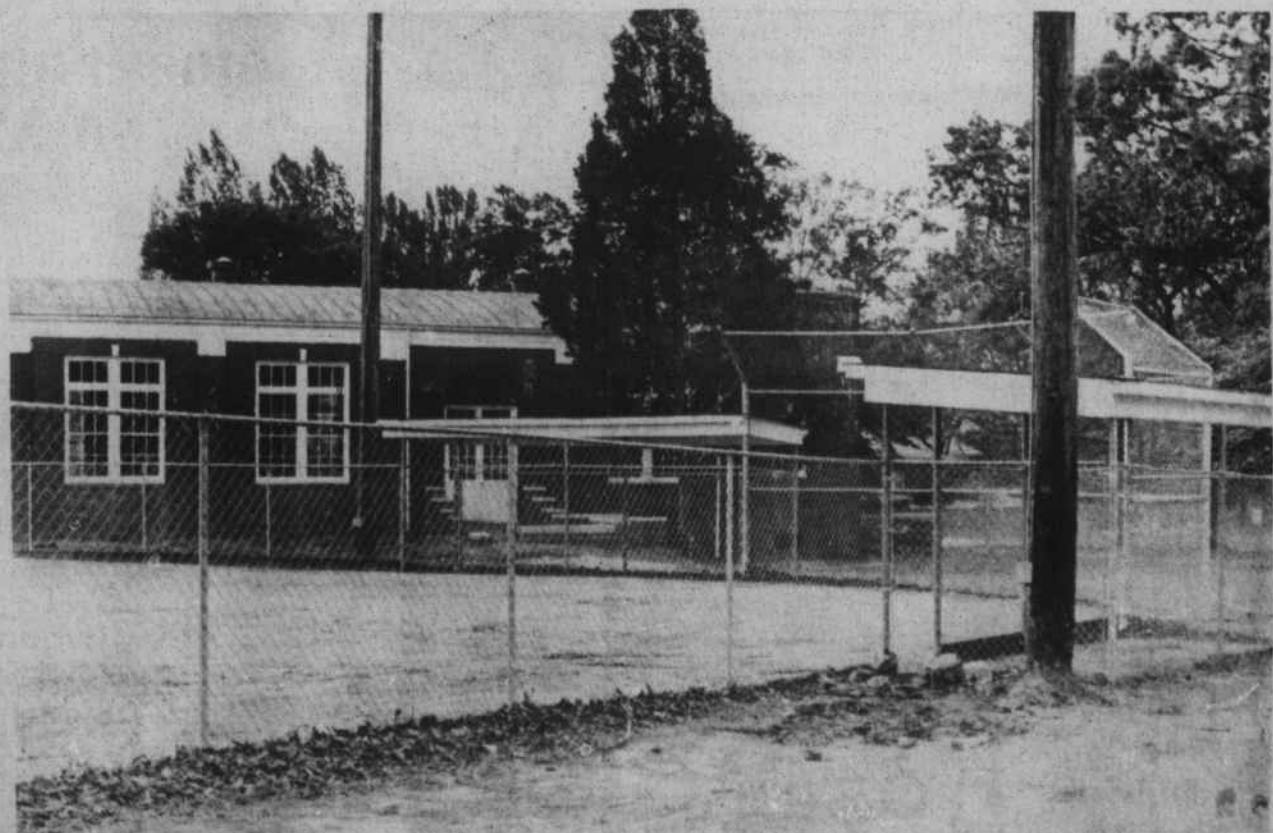
A Mount Olive teen-ager died early Saturday near Beulaville, the victim of a hit-and-run driver.

The youth, identified as Timothy Ray Dunn, 16, was struck at approximately 4 a.m. on N.C. 41, approximately 100 feet south of where the highway intersects with S.R. 1867, according to the Highway Patrol.

The victim apparently was walking along the side of the

road when the accident occurred. The patrol has no description of the automobile involved in the fatal incident, however.

Election Results Next Week



**MAGNOLIA SOFTBALL FIELD** - The softball field located on Highway 117 next to the old Magnolia school auditorium will be ready for night use by the end of the week. The ballpark was financed by a matching grant from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation and the town of

Magnolia. In the background is the Magnolia school auditorium which the town is also in the process of restoring. Work on the building is expected to be complete about June.