

Duplin Times

PROGRESS SENTINEL

VOL. XXXV NO. 28

USPS 162-880

KENANSVILLE, NC 28349

JULY 10, 1980

16 PAGES THIS WEEK

10 CENTS PLUS TAX

Migrant Council Works To Identify Problems

The Duplin Migrant Council will take all the migrant people who come to the organization for help and place them with the local agency which can best meet their needs, said Ray King, a member of the Council from Faison.

"We (Migrant Council) take them (migrants) all, and the ones that qualify with the Migrant Seasonal Farm Workers' Association, we turn over to them," King said. "But if they don't qualify with the MSFWA we place them with other local agencies."

According to George Wallace of Faison, the vice chairman of the Duplin Migrant Council, about 15 members make up the Council and represent Duplin health and human resource agencies.

"The Council members work together to identify the needs of the migrant people which are not being met," Wallace said. "We can work together to share information between Duplin agencies, and we seek new or existing resources to deal with the problems of the migrant people."

Wallace added, the Council works to identify the problem and contact the agency which would be most effective in solving the situation. For an example, day care for migrant children, the MSFWA was contacted and slots were purchased in local day care centers for migrant children. However, the Council has no funds available to donate to such projects as day care, Wallace said. In the future, he added,

the Council hopes to raise some money to help deal with migrant problems.

And, some of the money would be used to return people who do not qualify as migrant workers to their home, Wallace said. In Duplin there is no Salvation Army to help the people who come to the county and are unable to work and have no income. If the person qualified as a migrant worker, the MSFWA would arrange transportation, but for the ones who do not qualify, the MSFWA cannot help, Wallace said.

"Many people come to Faison each summer who have been injected into the migrant stream but are unable to work because of age or disease," King said. "Sometimes able-bodied persons are tricked into going with a migrant crew and that person can be placed in a job to make money for his fare home."

Crew leaders for migrants are paid by the number of workers brought to a job, King said. And, many times those who cannot work do not qualify as migrant laborers and have no income when they arrive at the job. To qualify as a migrant and for migrant benefits, at least \$400 has to be earned from farm labor, half the income and person's time must be spent in farm labor, and the farm work must be seasonal-type jobs.

Also, located in Faison is a Migrant Health Clinic, Theresa Tann, director of the clinic, said approximately 30 to 40 people come and go through the Clinic each day.

In the Clinic is a MSFWA office. The Clinic provides free medical treatment and is staffed with two family nurse practitioners, one registered nurse, and Dr. J.S. Blair, Jr. of Wallace visits the Clinic once a week. In the waiting area of the Clinic are two boxes of clothes provided by the Duplin Migrant Council which are free to the people who come into the Clinic, Tann said.

"We are here to provide total medical care. If we cannot provide the services the individual needs, we refer them to MSFWA," Tann said. "The MSFWA provides travel, housing, and food assistance. Each year we have about 12-15 migrants who come to the Clinic and have been left by their crew leaders, or brought to Faison under false pretenses. The MSFWA provides these people with food and housing and travel expenses back to their homes."

Persons not qualifying for migrant benefits and who have no income but come to the Migrant Council for help, are being assisted, King said. The Council had no place to board individuals caught in the migrant stream. King has arranged temporary lodging for these individuals in a building in downtown Faison. Food is being bought with money donated to the Migrant Council fund.

In the future the Council plans a fund drive to provide assistance for the people who cannot qualify for migrant benefits and need help.



LIMESTONE-MUDDY CREEK WORK PLAN SIGNED - The Limestone Muddy Creek watershed project began in 1970. Planning and studies have been in progress since. The watershed project is an effort to drain farmland, and will result in a lake and resort-type facility near Beulaville upon its completion. The final workplan for Muddy Creek was signed Monday during the meeting of the county commissioners. Pictured above

are George R. Cowan, chairman of the Duplin Watershed Improvement Commission; standing, Jesse L. Hicks, state conservatologist with the USDA-Soil Conservation Service; Calvin Mercer, chairman of the Duplin Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisors; and Franklin Williams, chairman of the Duplin County commissioners.

Pender Residents Seek Wallace Rescue Service

Petitions asking the Pender County commissioners to allow Duplin rescue squads to operate in northern Pender County were signed by about 100 at a meeting Monday night last week near Willard.

The group named a committee of three to present the petitions: Tommy Blanton, Albert Grimmer and Shirley Jenkins.

Howard Holly, clerk of the county board and county finance officer, said Tuesday last week that the committee would be heard at 3 p.m. at Monday's meeting this week in the county administration building in Burgaw.

Blanton, who served as chairman of the meeting, said the petitions at the meeting were filled with signatures. He promised to get other copies printed for additional signatures. "It

won't do any good for just five or six people to act," Blanton said. "We need to get everyone in the community to join in the effort."

Grimmer drew applause at the meeting when he commented, "The Pender commissioners don't do a thing for this area. If Burgaw needed it, it would already be done."

The petition drive was prompted by the Wallace rescue squad's cut-off of service to the area after answering calls across the county line for 8 years. The cut-off came after Duplin received an opinion from the state Attorney General's office that county-owned equipment could not serve people in another county without a contractual agreement between the counties involved. The Duplin com-

missioners have asked Pender for such an agreement, but so far the Pender board has taken no action.

Duplin already has similar agreements with Sampson, Wayne and Lenoir counties, allowing rescue squads to cross county lines to serve towns near their borders.

Wallace is located just north of the Duplin-Pender line and serves as a trade center for much of northern Pender. Its rescue squad is closer to many residents than the Pender Rescue Squad in Burgaw.

The Duplin commissioners

directed the Wallace squad to stop crossing the Pender line about six months ago. However, the squad had continued some service to the area primarily with an ambulance the squad had obtained without county funds. That ambulance was recently retired after failing to meet state standards.

A.D. Owenby, a member of the Pender squad who lives in Upper Union Township, told the meeting: "I would like to see the Wallace Squad continue serving this area, as we are having to come 15 miles and that's just

too far. All Duplin squads must charge a flat fee of \$20 for calls inside Duplin County, and \$20 plus \$1 per mile from the county line for calls outside the county. "Maybe this is why Pender County doesn't want to arrange to pay Duplin County, as Duplin pays to other counties," Owenby said. "Pender makes no charge."

Wallace Squad Captain J.C. Bryant told the group, "We want to serve the area and we are able to do so if permitted."

Brewer & Stephens Promoted At Southern Bank

Robert S. Williams, president and chief executive officer of Southern Bank and Trust Co. announced the decision of the board of directors to promote two of its employees in the Warsaw branch. Mrs. Jean Cavanaugh Stephens, assistant vice-president, has been named branch manager of the Warsaw branch of Southern Bank and Trust Company. Paul A. Brewer, vice president who assumed his new position in October

as general officer and branch supervisor, has been assigned to the home office in Mount Olive. One of his areas of supervision will be the Warsaw branch.



Jean Stephens

Hearing Set In Death Of Husband

Preliminary hearing for Kathleen Hargroves Mathis, 24, of Route 5, Mount Olive, on a charge of murder will be held July 14 in Duplin County District Court.

She has been charged with the slaying of her husband, Roy Davis Mathis, Jr., 26, Thursday at their home near Faison. He was shot one time with a .38 caliber pistol. Duplin sheriff's officers said the shooting resulted from a family argument.

Mrs. Mathis is being held without bail in Duplin County jail in Kenansville.



Paul Brewer

Brewer moved to Warsaw in 1972 from Louisburg. He is a native of Wilson and began his banking career in New Bern with First Citizens Bank and Trust Co. in 1965. Brewer is a graduate of Atlantic Christian College and the N.C. School of Banking at Chapel Hill. He is presently enrolled in the School of Banking of the South in Baton Rouge, LA. Brewer and his wife, Betsy, have two sons, Anderson, age 14 and Doug, age 9.

Wallace Cuts Town Budget-Hikes Tax Rate

A 1980-81 budget of \$1,175,909, calling for an ad valorem tax rate of 65 cents per \$100 valuation, was approved last week by the Wallace town board.

Although the budget totals \$333,652 less than the 1979-80 figures, the tax rate had to be raised from 59 cents to 65 cents to balance the new figure.

A reduction in state and

federal grants and a reduction in carried-over money forced the tax increase, Town Administrator Tom Phillips said.

In addition to the tax increase, the water and sewer rate will increase 10%. City auto license tags will cost \$2, an increase of \$1. As a result of residents' comment at a public hearing, the board raised dog pound fees from \$1 to \$5 per day of

Buck Swamp Kickin' Cloggers To Perform At Liberty Cart Opening

The Buck Swamp Kickin' Cloggers of Goldsboro, a nationally recognized group will perform July 18 at opening night festivities of the 1980 season of THE LIBERTY CART in Kenansville.

Formed in 1975 by Randy and Carolyn Parrish, the cloggers have traveled the East Coast performing and teaching the art of clogging. Traditionally, the group opens the National Hollerin' Contest held annually at Spiveys Corner. They have

been filmed by ABC's Good Morning America, CBS News, NBC's Big Blue Marble and by the British Broadcasting Company.

In 1979, the Buck Swamp Kickin' Cloggers performed in Washington, D.C. at the White House and have given performances at hundreds of festivals, hospitals and private parties throughout the eastern United States.

Rich Boyd, director and general manager of THE LIBERTY CART, says, "We are fortunate to have this exciting group entertain before the opening of our 5th season. A group of their calibre and experience will add another dimension to our opening night festivities. I hope area residents will take advantage of this opportunity to see one of the finest clogging groups in the nation performing one of America's unique art forms."

THE LIBERTY CART opening night festivities will begin at 6:30 p.m. with Supper-In-the-Pines adjacent to the William R. Kenan, Jr. Memorial Amphitheatre, followed by the Cloggers and the 8:15 premiere of THE LIBERTY CART.

impoundment.

The new budget calls for a 6% salary increase for town employees.

In other action, Elizabeth Knowles was reappointed city tax collector.

The board also set 2 p.m. July 14 for opening of bids on city paving asphalt.

Warsaw Clinic Designated Rural Health Site

Governor Jim Hunt has declared the Warsaw Medical Clinic a State Rural Health Center making the Warsaw Center available for technical and financial assistance.

The medical center will be leasing the educational building, the remains of the old Baptist Church, from the Warsaw Baptist Church, said Gerald Quinn, a member of the Duplin Medical Association. The medical center will be staffed with Dr. Stephen Griffith and Dr. Clark Hanmer, who announced plans in the fall of 1979 to locate a general practice in the county.

While Dr. Hanmer works in Beulaville at the East Duplin Medical Center, he will also work in Warsaw, Quinn said. Quinn says the Warsaw center will not be opened until about Thanksgiving. Until then, both doctors will be working out of the Beulaville office.

Renovation of the building in Warsaw will cost approximately \$150,000, Quinn said. The Duplin Medical Corporation will receive a five to one matching grant from the North Carolina Office of Rural Health Services. In order to qualify for the grant, Warsaw had to be designated as a Rural Health Site, Quinn said, and to match the

grant, \$25,000 will have to be raised in the Warsaw community. The state health services has asked that the Corporation raise the money by small contributions from at least 750 families, Quinn said.

Matching funds are expected to be collected by the end of next week; \$21,000 has been raised since the project began in

June, Gail Kelly of the State Rural Health Services said.

The East Duplin Medical Center in Beulaville will be included in the State Rural Health Center declaration made by Governor Hunt. Both the Warsaw and Beulaville medical centers are under the supervision of the Duplin Medical Corporation, a non-profit organization.

Board Declares Garbage Pick-Up Emergency

The Duplin County Board of Commissioners declared an emergency condition exists in the county's garbage pick-up program and called for bids on a garbage pick-up truck to be opened July 18. Estimated cost of such a vehicle is \$70,000. The emergency came about because present vehicles have failed due to age and mileage.

The board was notified by Fletcher Pearson, chairman of the Area Mental Health Board and a member of the Sampson Commission, that Sampson County had approved \$71,415 for the Duplin-Sampson Area

Mental Health and Mental Retardation Service.

Pearson stated in a letter, "Sampson County is moving in the direction of equal financing of the mental health program in our area with Duplin County. In the 1978-79 year Sampson provided \$41,760, in 1979-80 it provided \$62,640, and in 1981-82 Sampson hopes to come up to the \$80,000 Duplin County provides the program in county general funds."

Duplin County appropriated \$95,000 for the Mental Health program this fiscal year, the same as for last year.