

# Duplin Times

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**PROGRAM FOR NON-FARMING LAND-OWNERS** - The Duplin County Agricultural Extension Service and the Soil and Water Conservation District sponsored the first meeting especially for non-farming landowners in the county. Guest speakers appeared before the

group of approximately 60 people discussing topics involved with leasing land. The Monday morning meeting was followed by an afternoon tour of farms within the county. Lunch was provided by the Kenansville Production Credit Association. Pictured above, left to right,

Kenneth Futrel of the Duplin Soil and Water Conservation, Bill Eickhoff, an economist at North Carolina State University, Lois Britt, chairman of the Duplin Extension Service, and Roy Houston, president of Production Credit Association.

Photo by Emily Killete

## Housing For Elderly Citizens In Faison

By Emily Killete

Plans for an elderly housing complex were discussed with the Faison Board of Commissioners during their regular meeting last week.

Dewayne Anderson and William Howell of Anderson, Benton & Holmes in Winston-Salem appeared before the Faison commissioners. Anderson explained the complex would consist of 26 one-bedroom units and three two-bedroom units. Only applicants 62 years of age and older would be considered for tenants in the complex. The housing complex will be privately owned and locally managed, Anderson said. David Weil of Goldsboro will be managing the housing complex. It will be operated under the same guidelines as the Goldsboro Hotel, which was restored and renovated for renting to the elderly, Anderson said. Also, ten percent of the units will be designed to accommodate the handicapped, especially the elderly person restricted to a wheelchair.

The units will be constructed near Hick Street. Anderson explained that all sewer and waterlines and meters will be installed by the construction crew working on the project. A lift station will be constructed on Hick St., and water and sewer work will be done to town specifications, Anderson said. At the end of the construction, all water and sewer lines, along with the sewage lift station, will be deeded to the town. The project will be billed for one water tap fee and one sewer tap. Each apartment will be individually metered and residents will be billed by the town for utilities.

The town will also be responsible for running a 400-foot extension of the waterline on Hick Street from Highway #117. Each apartment will be on the ground level and have individual patios. Construction on the project will not begin for another six months to a year, Anderson said. The final

architectural plans have been submitted to the department of housing and Urban Development and are expected to be approved by September 30th, Anderson added.

Units in the complex will be advertised upon completion, and a mixture of different income senior citizens will be selected as tenants, Anderson said.

## Future of School Building Still a Mystery

The controversy over future ownership of the old Kenansville elementary School building, which will be abandoned when the new building opens this fall, is continuing.

The Duplin County Board of Education adopted a resolution Monday night to lease the school playground area to the town of Kenansville or its recreation commission for ten years at \$1 per year. If the school system needs the land within that time, it will be able to take it back and pay the recreation department for any capital improvements on the property.

The resolution also calls for the school board to obtain the old building as a remainder of the grounds until the disposition of the E.E. Smith School has been resolved.

The county commissioners have also been seeking title to the property.

Earlier, the commissioners tied the transfer of \$100,000

from the school system's capital outlay budget to the current expense budget to a vote of the title to the county.

The school system has been operating on an interim budget, pending transfer of the money. If \$145,000 is not turned over, Superintendent C.H. Yelverton said the interim budget would become the 1980-81 fiscal year budget.

The resolution was introduced by Fred Rhodes and supported by Rhodes, James Strickland and E.L. Boyette. Absent were Patricia Broadrick and Graham Phillips.

The board also decided to ask the commissioners to transfer \$43,000 from capital outlay to current expense if they will not transfer the \$145,000. The \$43,000 would be used to eliminate student vocational and book fees.

A study, authorized by the school board to determine possible uses for the old school building, listed 24 possibilities. The Kenansville Fire Department condemned the building three years ago.

Rich Boyd, director of THE LIBERTY CART and member of the study committee, reported the structure would be ideal for use as an arts center. It could also be used as a community center, storage space, or a centralized meeting place, or for community school programs.

In other business, Shelby Kilpatrick, food services director, reported an increase in lunch charges for this fall.

She explained it costs 39 cents to produce one breakfast which has been sold for 25 cents, while lunches — which sell for 60 cents in junior and senior high schools and 55 cents in lower grades — cost \$1.14 each.

The new schedule will put breakfast at 35 cents for students and 60 cents for adults. Lunch will be 60 cents for grade students, 65 cents for junior and senior high students, and \$1.15 for adults.

She said the average monthly expenditure for the school lunch program is \$171,699.40.

The board also directed school principals to check on student immunizations under the new immunization law.

## Beulaville Board Votes No To Blue Laws

By a split vote last week, the Beulaville town board rejected limitations on Sunday sales in the town.

Voting to apply blue laws was Commissioner Monk Whaley. Opposing application of the sales limitation were Commissioners Wilbur Hussey, Sambo Blizzard, Frank Boyette and Rabon Brown.

Whaley said petitions

calling for a referendum on beer and wine sales have received sufficient signatures for a vote to be held, although no date has been set. He said he wanted the Sunday sales limitations in case beer and wine sales were voted in by the people to prevent Beulaville from turning into another Jacksonville.

Mayor Marion Edwards

said the question was brought up before the board because of complaints of some citizens. The town has no blue law. The town attorney drew up a blue law that would have closed everything, including coin operated telephones, vending machines, self-service gasoline pumps or anything that constituted a business.

Jimmy Jackson, IGA store owner, said the proposed sales ban would be "like legislating religion and you can't do that." He said his employees who wish to go to church are let off for this time.

Billy Murphy, an owner of the Easy Shop convenience store, said, "The number of sales on our cash register tapes would be votes for

being open on Sundays. If people did not patronize us, we wouldn't be open on Sundays."

"If you close us down, someone will open up just outside the city limits so you won't have solved anything, and those who want to buy on Sundays will simply go to Kenansville," Ray Smith, owner of Ray's Service Center, commented.

Commissioners voting against the Sunday sales ban said people who had talked with them about the matter had urged leaving things as they have been.

Bee Blankford, representing the library board, received permission to hire an assistant for 17.5 hours per week to fill in for a CETA worker who must attend school for 16 working days.

The concept of a curfew, except in times of emergency, was called illegal by Town Attorney Rusty Lanier, in response to a directive by the board to look into the possibility of establishing a curfew.

An ordinance barring possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages in public was approved by the board.

## Stabbing Kills Rose Hill Man

A Rose Hill man was stabbed to death late Saturday night and the man who called him 'dad' has been charged with the murder, a sheriff's deputy said.

Woodrow Graham, 61, an employee of the Duplin County Landfill, was killed a little before 11:20 p.m., said Alfred Baysden, a deputy who answered the call from Graham's neighbor.

Apparently Robert Clinton Bass, 23, who is being held in the county jail at Kenansville, went to the neighbor's home to say that someone had killed his 'dad.'

Graham had raised Bass since a baby, but was not his legal father, officials said.

Both Graham and Bass live a mile west of Rose Hill, where the murder occurred.

Baysden said the murder weapon had not been found. He was being assisted in the investigation by the SBI and the Rose Hill Police Department.

Bass was arrested in Wallace at about 3 a.m. Sunday morning and charged with murder at 7 a.m. A mobile crime lab was sent to the scene. The investigation continues.

## Kenansville Board Meets

## Two Speed Limits Raised

By Emily Killete

Two speed limits and three parking ordinances were passed by the Kenansville Board of Commissioners during their regular monthly meeting August 4.

A speed ordinance raising the limit from 35 miles per hour to 45 was approved by the board for a section of highway 11. The speed limit will be increased from Warsaw Road to the city limits near James Sprunt Technical College. The board also approved an ordinance declaring the town speed limit 35 miles per hour unless otherwise posted.

Two handicapped parking ordinances were adopted by the town board. Special parking spaces will be marked on each side of Duplin Street, one in front of the Health Annex and a second in front of the west entrance to the courthouse. A third parking ordinance was approved by the commissioners which will not allow parking on Main Street. The no-parking ordinance

was adopted as part of the plan to have three lanes marked on Main Street. The third lane will be designated as a turning lane.

Public Works Director Larry Hoffman informed the town board of water leaks on Main Street. The leaks are part of about six waterline leaks in the town. Among the worst, Hoffman said, are the leaks at Jackson's IGA and on Highway 24 east. Some of the water leaks are more than a month old, and state highway officials have demanded that the leaks be fixed on NC 24 and 11, the public works director said.

The leaks in the Kenansville water system can be seen as wet spots on the roads around town. One contractor contacted by Hoffman agreed to fix all the waterline leaks for \$1,700.

"We do not have enough manpower to do the job. There are only four people working, and two of these run the trash truck until noon each day," Hoffman said.

Hoffman added that several men would be

needed to repair the lines on Main Street; at least one person would be needed to direct traffic. After discussion by the board, an agreement was made with the town police department to direct traffic and the public works department to repair the leaks. Mayor Douglas Judge requested the leaks on Main Street be given priority. Judge stated that funds to hire a contractor to repair the leaks were not available in the 1980-81 budget.

Town Administrator Woody Brinson reported the water improvement project is ready to begin. A resolution was adopted by the board to authorize local government officials to begin selling the bond anticipation notes to finance the water project.

The town board presented resolutions of appreciation to former town employees Sandra V. Middleton and H.C. Mitchell. Ms. Middleton served as an office employee at the town hall since 1977, and was town clerk. Mitchell had served Kenans-

ville five years as a police officer. Following Ms. Middleton's resignation, the board appointed Mary Ann Jenkins as town clerk.

A letter from the county board of commissioners was read by Brinson. The commissioners requested the town board make a recommendation for an appointment to the Duplin Airport Commission.

Two architects' sketches of the fire department/town hall expansion were shown at the board meeting. Brinson explained that the fire department had recommended the expansion plan which included two entrances. The entrances would give both the fire department and town hall individual entrances.

Commissioners Betty Long and William Fennell were not present for the board meeting.

## Farmer Injured By Hay Baler Combine

A Duplin County farmer was seriously injured Saturday when his arm became caught in an operating combine, the Sheriff's Department reported.

The victim, identified as Robert Ray Thomas, was transported to New Hanover Hospital after the Duplin County Rescue Squad answered the call for a farm between Cabin and Sarecta at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Late Saturday he was still being treated at the emergency room, and Sunday his condition was listed as stable.

Guy estimated 531 seniors will be graduated in the spring compared with 592 last spring. He said the dropout rate has been about 7.9 percent.

Guy said the administration is attempting to return the 14 teachers to the system by replacing retiring or resigning teachers with those whose positions have been eliminated.

Education is a major business operation in a rural county, adding \$15 million to the economy. Teachers' salaries total \$9.7 million.

## Classes Begin Sept. 2

## Duplin Schools Prepare To Open

Preparation for the 1980-81 school year has included delivery of 17,800 text books to the 17 schools of the system.

Another feature of the new school year will be opening of the new Kenansville Elementary School and retirement of a half-century-old structure near Kenan Memorial Auditorium and Duplin General Hospital in Kenansville.

The system will lose 14 teaching positions due to

decreasing attendance, according to L.S. Guy, assistant superintendent. The system will open with 450 teachers this fall.

Anticipated enrollment is 8,600 students, he added, an expected decrease of about 400 from last year. Of the total, an estimated 630 students will be in kindergarten, about the same as last year.

Teachers will report August 20. Student orientation will be August 27 and classes will begin September 2.

## It's Time To Immunize

The General Assembly ratified a new immunization law February 16, 1979. Beginning with the 1980-81 school year, the law requires that all children, kindergarten through grade 12, and out-of-state transfer students have the following immunizations: 3 DPT (diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis) shots, 3 oral polio vaccine (OPV) doses, one measles (rubeola) shot after one year of age, and one rubella (German measles) shot.

The schedule for obtaining

immunizations through the Health Department is as follows: Faison Town Hall, 1st Monday, 11:00 - 12:00 noon; Warsaw Town Hall, 1st Monday, 1:30-3:30 p.m.; Rose Hill Town Hall, 1st Tuesday, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.; Wallace Town Hall, 1st Tuesday, 2:15 - 3:30 p.m.; Beulaville Town Hall, 2nd Thursday, 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.; Chinquapin (Rescue Building), 2nd Thursday, 2:15 - 3:30 p.m.; and Kenansville Health Department, every Monday from 8-11:30 a.m., and 1-4:30