

# Duplin Times

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## Duplin Declared Among 67 Drought Counties In North Carolina

By Emily Killete

Duplin County is among 67 counties across North Carolina to be included in a drought and heat disaster declaration by U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Bob Bergland.

The declaration will make low interest loans available to farmers who suffered a crop loss due to the drought and heat between June 1 and September 2. Loans carrying a 5% interest rate will be available to farmers covering the value of the actual crop loss, said Director of Duplin Farmers Home Administration Jim Mills. And, only farmers who sustained a 20% or greater crop loss in a key enterprise will qualify under the disaster declaration for a low interest loan, Mills added.

In Duplin, Mills explained, the drought and heat will take its greatest toll on the soybean crop and late-planted corn. Duplin ASCS estimates a 10% loss in the production and quality of this year's tobacco crop, with the greatest loss affecting the top stalk leaves, he added. And, an estimated loss of soybeans could reach as high as 40% in the county, Mills said.

Duplin Agricultural Extension Agent Snodie Wilson said a 20% loss in soybean yields could be expected. However, he added, many late varieties of soybeans would put on new blossoms if rain falls soon. Many of the late varieties or varieties planted behind produce crops will not mature until the last of October, Wilson

said. "With a 20% loss," Wilson said, "you are only talking about two to three bushels an acre. And, in some areas, the soybean loss could go as high as four to five bushels at about \$8 a bushel."

This year 55,000 acres of soybeans are planted in Duplin County, Wilson said. And, after the crop is harvested in November, a more accurate count of the soybean loss will be available.

Farmers who suffer a 20% crop loss can apply for low interest FmHA loans at their local agency. Mills added, loan applications will be accepted until June 1, 1981. And, the repayment of the loan is based on the farmer's ability to overcome the loss, usually seven to 20 years.

Mills commented that farmers are only eligible for low interest loans to cover the amount of the crop loss. The farmer's past years' production rate per acre and state averages will be used to figure the amount of loss per acre, he said.

Other loans available through FmHA for the farmer are at a higher rate of interest. The farmer can apply for a 12 1/2% change in real estate or refinancing loan, Mills said. And, a 13 1/2% loan is available to the farmer for refinancing and improving equipment.

Duplin and surrounding counties of Sampson, Wayne and Pender were declared under the drought and heat disaster counties, while counties adjoining Duplin on the east, Lenoir, Jones and

Onslow, are not among the disaster counties.

Farmers not qualifying for a disaster loan with FmHA can apply to the Small Business Administration. However, the SBA is presently acting as a lender of the last resort, said Hank Brinkley, a SBA representative.

According to Brinkley Governor Jim Hunt has requested the SBA's participation in the drought and heat disaster declaration. If the SBA declares a drought and heat disaster, Brinkley said, farmers will be eligible to apply for disaster aid at either the FmHA or the SBA.

## Little Miss Rose Hill Pageant

The Rose Hill Jaycettes will produce the sixth Little Miss Rose Hill Pageant on Thursday, September 11 at 7:30 p.m. at the Rose Hill-Magnolia School in Rose Hill.

Seven young ladies, ages 8-10, will be competing for the title. They will perform talents consisting of dancing, singing and reciting.

The contestants are Hollie Register, Pamela Rouse, Lisa Bradshaw, Shannon Whaley, Susan Scott, Mary Cavanaugh and Missy Cavanaugh.

The mistress of ceremonies will be Joan Newton of Wallace.

Aimee Watson, the reigning Little Miss North Carolina - Hemisphere, is scheduled to perform. Aimee was the second runner-up in the national pageant that was held in New Jersey in August.

The Jaycettes hope you attend this pageant and support them. Proceeds will go to worthy Jaycette projects.

## Jaycee Community Calendar Sales

"The big city might have some advantages, but there is nothing as friendly and comforting as living right where we are," Woody Brinson, Jaycee birthday calendar chairman, said.

Just about everybody in Kenansville knows that "Dog's" birthday is September 10th. It is also public knowledge that Mr. and Mrs. Samuel J. Middleton will celebrate their wedding anniversary on September 18th, or that Mrs. Faison McGowan will be "younger" on September 20th.

The Kenansville Jaycees can be credited with helping neighbors know more about neighbors. The Jaycees have sponsored the publication of the community birthday calendar for the past seven years.

The community birthday calendar certainly helps make our friendly community even more friendly. A number of merchants from Kenansville and surrounding areas have an advertisement on the calendar; many of them offer gifts or discounts to citizens on purchases made during the week of their birthdays and anniversaries.

All proceeds from the project go to the Jaycees' many charitable projects such as donations to the fire department and recreation program and a special Christmas for the elderly.

If you are not contacted and wish to have your birthday and anniversary listed on the Kenansville community birthday calendar, contact any Kenansville Jaycee or go by the town hall or Kenansville Drug Store. All sales end this coming Monday, September 15.



**RETIREES FROM DUPLIN FINANCE OFFICE** - Doris N. Sitterson of Kenansville is retiring after 26 years of service to Duplin County and its citizens. Mrs. Sitterson began working with a part-time job in the register of deeds office, and later moved into a full-time position with the county finance office. In honor of Mrs. Sitterson's past

service, the Duplin County commissioners presented her with a certificate of appreciation. She was also honored with a reception September 8 given by the finance office. During the reception, Russell Tucker, Duplin finance officer, presented Mrs. Sitterson with a gift of two pieces of luggage from the finance department employees.

## Faison Houses To Be Numbered To Aid In Emergencies

By Emily Killete

A plan to number the houses in Faison was presented to the Faison Town Board during their regular meeting September 2.

Mayor Bill Carter explained a map used by the Department of Transportation in planning the block numbers for the town of Faison. The numbering of housing in town had been

recommended by DOT officials, Carter said, and will aid police and fire department personnel in locating homes during an emergency. According to the numbering plan, residential buildings each 50 feet will bear a number, and businesses each 25 feet.

The board requested Attorney Jene Thompson to prepare an ordinance requiring Faison citizens to display their home or business number in a location visible from the street using numbers no less than three inches in height.

Approval was made in the form of a resolution which recognized the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency as a possible participant in the housing project for the elderly planned by Anderson, Benton & Holmes of Winston-Salem. The board approved two resolutions, the first recognized Anderson, Benton & Holmes' intent to build low income housing at a site on Hick Street in Faison, and recognized the possible participation by the N.C.H.F.A. with financing and administration. A second resolution approved the N.C.H.F.A.'s participation in an elderly housing project on Hick Street and stated the adoption of the resolutions did not obligate the agency to the project. According to Town Administrator Neil Mallory, the resolutions are needed in order for the builder to apply for financing through the agency.

Commissioner Billie Hollingsworth questioned the different wording in resolution one and two, low income and elderly housing, explaining that Dewayne Anderson of Anderson, Benton & Holmes had appeared before the board to ask approval for elderly housing, not low-income units to be constructed on Hick Street.

A motion to approve the resolution was made by Commissioner William Igoe and seconded by Commissioner Rachel Clifton. Commissioner Hollingsworth did not vote, and Commissioners Helen Britt and Fred Wheelis approved the motion.

The board agreed water service to a house owned by Clyde Bradshaw outside the town limits should be discontinued if proper waterlines are not installed. The rental home is connected to a water meter within the city limits by a plastic pipe, said Wheelis, director of public works. The pipe carries water about a quarter-of-a-mile to the house outside the city limits, he said, and breaks often. According to Mayor Carter, tenants who have been unable to pay the water bill when the line breaks have moved from the home without paying the bill. Carter suggested a possible ordinance to make the owner responsible for utility bills outside the town limits.

"Inside or outside town limits, we should treat all the citizens the same," Igoe said. "Isn't this really a

problem between the tenant and landlord?"

Britt added, town tenants are responsible for their water bills, not the landlord. If the bill is not paid, the water is cut off. Cases outside the town limits should be no different, she said.

"There should be some way to fix it (the law) to protect the tenant," Hollingsworth stated.

After a brief executive session, the public board meeting resumed and the Faison commissioners approved a motion to allow public works employees, Troy Faison and Donald Oates, a full week's paid vacation.

The board also instructed Thompson to send a letter to Engineer Finley Boney. The letter would request Boney submit a re-design fee to the town board. Boney re-designed the water improvement project after the first bids were opened and judged too expensive by the board, Carter said. And, further communication on the design fee difference of \$14,000 was placed in the hands of the town attorney.

According to Attorney Jene Thompson, the town of Faison is not obligated to pay for the design of the water improvement project based on estimated cost. The town's contract with Boney & Associates states the design fee will be a percentage of the actual contracted cost of the project, not the estimated cost of which Boney is demanding payment, Thompson said.

## Duplin Rescue Fees Hiked

Increases in Duplin County rescue squad fees were authorized by the county Board of Commissioners last week.

The fee for ambulance service in the county was increased from \$20 to \$25.

The fee for outside the county was increased from a base rate of \$20 to \$35. The mileage charge from the county line to the ambulance destination was increased

from 80 cents per mile to \$1.25. A charge of \$10 per hour for waiting time was also approved.

Hiram Brinson, emergency services coordinator, asked the board for the increases to offset rising costs of operating and maintaining the ambulances.

The board also transferred a 1972 van with 72,000 miles on its speedometer from the

Wallace Rescue Squad to the Chinquapin Squad for use as an equipment truck. The van had been used as an ambulance in the past. Commission Chairman S. Franklin Williams opposed the move, saying the county should charge at least \$100 to avoid a problem with future requests for transfer of vehicles.

The board also authorized

an increase in the salary allocation for a county arts director from \$12,802 to \$13,393 per year. The post has been vacant since Mark Monday, the former director, resigned in August. Although there was considerable discussion, and some opposition to refilling the position, the vote for the salary increase was unanimous.

A bid of \$52,218.57 for county insurance for three years from Associated Insurance Agency of Wallace was accepted by the commission. In previous years the commission had allocated different county insurance policies to different companies in the county. Last year's combined premiums totaled \$46,117.

Other bidders for the coverage were Farm Bureau at \$60,852.19 and James E. Moore Insurance Co at \$72,641.49.

## Families Headed By Househusbands

By Emily Killete

Families with working women are on the increase, and a new trend is on the rise where the husband stays home while the wife goes to work.

According to U.S. Labor Department figures, women in North Carolina earned 61 cents for every dollar earned by males. Of the working women, 80% are employed in four job categories, sales, service, factory and clerical, all with limited growth and low-paying salaries. But, three percent of the work force hold jobs with growth potential and high-paying salaries. Each day women are moving into higher level jobs and earning more money, which has led to the reversal in traditional family roles.

In the past nine years, the reversal of the husband and wife role has increased 71% with men staying home while their wife earns a salary, North Carolina State University human development research indicates.

Women have chosen to take a job and leave the childcare and household jobs to their husbands. Househusbands surveyed by NCSU expressed feelings of powerlessness resulting from not having their own income.

And, because the husbands did not have an income separate from their wives, the househusband felt he had less power in the family decision-making process.

Today four out of every five families are the traditional husband-wife family. And, 1976 tax laws made it expensive for two married people to work. The tax penalty on married workers reduces the additional salary more than a single wage earner's salary. Additional expenses generated by a second worker within the family must be taken from the second income. After taxes, the married couple must deduct such items as child care, transportation and additional work clothes from the second salary. Despite the large expenses generated by the second family worker, two incomes are needed to meet the rate of inflation, say NCSU human development specialists.

North Carolina has the highest female labor force participation in the United States, and that rate is increasing above the average U.S. rate. However, while North Carolina leads the nation in the number of women in the work force, and the number of families with both the wife and husband

working, the state's median family income falls below the national level, development specialists report. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, 64% of the working women in North Carolina are either the sole supporter of their family or their husband earns less than \$10,000 annually.

In recent years the traditional family has undergone enormous changes, NCSU Extension information states. The wife and mother has become more active in providing family income. Husband-wife families have declined and female-headed households have resulted. The divorce rate has climbed from 2.6 per 1,000 population in 1967 to 4.8 in 1975. Because of the increased human life span, households headed by persons 65 or over are the single largest segment of one-member homes. The average family size has also declined from 3.67 in 1960 to 3.24 today. In addition, the illegitimacy rate has risen from 40 births per 1,000 live births to 142 births in 1975.

## Area Sports See Page 14



**WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE** - left to right - Mrs. Christine W. Williams, Duplin County register of deeds and chairman of the conference; Mrs. Violette K. Phillips of Kenansville, registration chairman and treasurer; Mrs. Judy Wallace, home economics agent of Duplin County and one of the instructors in the stress management workshop; Ellen Lentz Brewer of Warsaw, instructor in the time management workshop; Mrs. Carolyn Burnette Ingram, attorney of Kenansville, instructor in the workshop on women and the law; Mrs. Rebecca Judge, mental health nurse of Beulaville who assisted in the workshop on women and stress management;

Mrs. Peggy Farmer, a psychiatric nursing workshop supervisor from New Bern, who taught workshop on building a positive self image and becoming the best that you can be; Dr. Alice S. Scott, an assistant Duplin County superintendent of schools from Route #2, Pink Hill, who taught the workshop on decision making; and Mrs. Rose Helms, a certified psychologist from Swansboro who conducted the workshop on assertiveness training; Mrs. Helen H. Mahlum, member of the board of directors of the N.C. Council on the Status of Women from New Bern; and Mrs. Jean Nelson, field coordinator of the NCCSW.