

Duplin Times

PROGRESS SENTINEL

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More Than 2 Million Renewal Cards To Be Mailed

1981 Vehicle Registration Begins January 2

The North Carolina Department of Transportation's Division of Motor Vehicles will begin mailing out 1981 vehicle registration renewal notices Dec. 8, according to motor vehicles commissioner Elbert L. Peters Jr.

The motor vehicles division will mail approximately 2.25 million renewal cards at that time. Peters said all the renewal card should be in the mail no later than Dec. 19.

The sale of 1981 validation stickers and license plates begins Jan. 2, 1981. All registration renewals, stickers or tags, must be displayed by no later than midnight Feb. 15.

State Transportation Secretary Tom Bradshaw reminds motorists that North Carolina is changing to a new vehicle registration system which will distribute license plate renewals throughout the year.

"This new staggered registration system will enable us to spread the volume of work to register vehicles in this state throughout the year. Approximately five million motor vehicles were registered in 1980, and the latest figures indicate that an even greater number can be expected this year," he said.

"The new system will help eliminate the traditionally long lines at license plate

offices each year and allow us to provide better and more efficient service to the motor vehicle owners once the program has been fully implemented."

Under the new system, owners of cars, motorcycles, trailers, private 4,000-pound pickup trucks and U-drive it (rental) vehicles will be assigned registration months alphabetically by the first letter of their last names.

During the Jan. 1-Feb. 15 renewal period, owners may be required to renew for as few as eight months or as many as nineteen months. They will pay for the actual number of months from January to their renewal

dates.

"The annual license tag cost has not been changed," Peters said. "The license tag cost has been pro-rated according to the number of months that the vehicle is registered."

"Motor vehicle owners should check their license renewal dates. The varying fees and expiration dates make it more important than ever that owners bring or send in both sections of their perforated license renewal cards when they buy their plates."

The stickers and tags may be purchased in person from one of 115 license plate agencies across the state or

by mail from the motor vehicles division in Raleigh.

Each license plate issued under the staggered system (except farm truck plates) will display two validation stickers. One will be the year validation sticker and the other will be the permanent renewal month sticker. Farm trucks will have both the month and year on one sticker.

Motor vehicle owners who have special license plates (personalized, official, handicapped, fireman, etc.) will still renew their license plates from Jan. 1 to mid-February each year.

Peters also noted that vehicle owners who registered their vehicles under the staggered system from July 1-December 31, 1980, will receive their renewal card in mid-May 1981 since they renew in June. Approximately 508,000 vehicle owners will renew their license plates in June.

Area offices are:
LENOIR - Lonnie E. Hill - Contractor, Vernon Park Mall, West Vernon Avenue, Kinston, NC 28501 (919) 523-5292, 9-5 Mon.-Fri., 9-12 noon Sat.

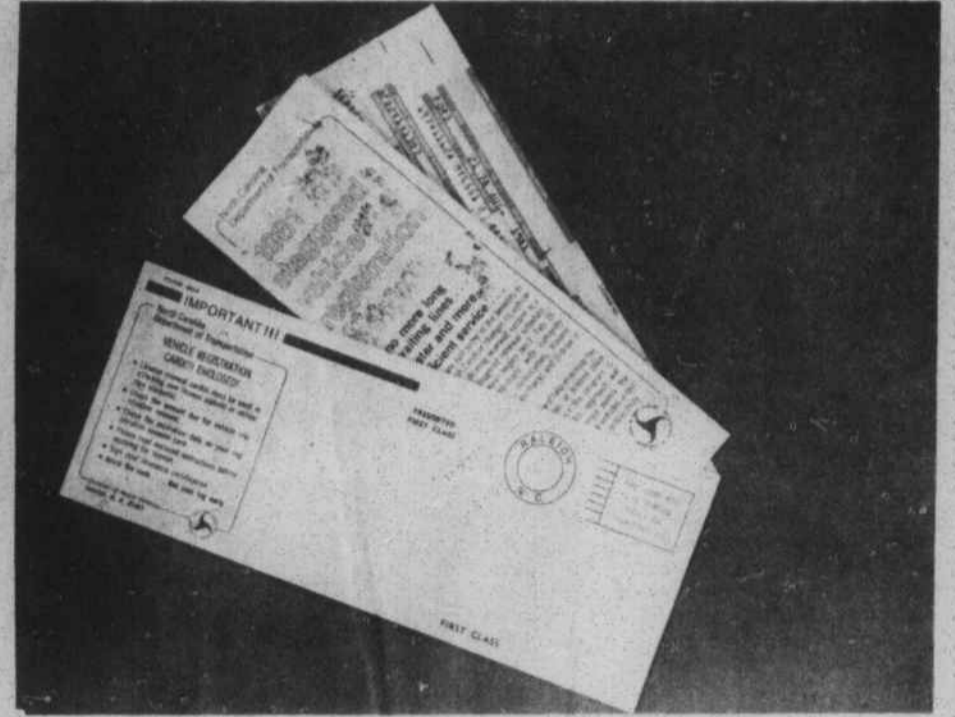
DUPLIN - Gladys P. Sikes - Contractor, Rockfish Plaza, Wallace, NC 28466 - (919) 285-5926, 9-5 Mon.-Fri., 9-1 Sat.

SAMPSON - Regina B. Carter - Contractor, Northcutt Roofing Company

Building, 908 S.E. Boulevard, P.O. Box 778, Clinton, NC 28328 (919) 592-5265, 9-5 Mon.-Fri., Closed Sat.

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Goldsboro, NC 27530 - (919) 734-0881, 9-5 Mon.-Fri., Closed Saturday.



LICENSE PLATE RENEWAL CARDS MAILED

More than two million of the license renewal cards and informational brochures pictured are being mailed to motor vehicle owners across North Carolina on December 8. All license renewal cards should be mailed by December 19. Motorists should make sure they take or send both sections of their perforated license renewal cards when they purchase their license tags

and stickers. Motorvehicles Commissioner Elbert L. Peters Jr. also reminds motorists to fill out and sign the insurance certification on the back of their license renewal cards. He also noted that motor vehicle owners who have moved to a new address need to show their correct addresses on both sections of the renewal card before purchasing license plates or validation stickers. License plates and stickers go on sale Jan. 2, 1981.

Corn Growers' Association Meeting December 12

Aflatoxins will be high on the list of topics to be discussed at the Dec. 12 annual meeting of the Corn Growers' Association of North Carolina. The meeting will be held in the Jane S. McKimmon Center on the NGSU campus in Raleigh, and will start at 9 a.m. with registration. There is no fee

and a complementary lunch will be served to all in attendance. J. Michael Moore, assistant agricultural extension agent, encourages corn growers to attend with anyone who produces corn eligible to attend. Moore said, "This will be a day well spent for corn producers."

In addition to reports on

aflatoxins, growers will hear about research projects concerning broadleaf signalgrass control and the effects of subsiding and irrigation on yields.

A highlight will be presentation of awards to growers with the most outstanding yields. Two Hundred Bushel Club certificates

will be presented to all growers surpassing this mark.

The CGA is funded by an assessment on each bushel of farmer corn sold in the state.

The association is led by a board of directors consisting of 24 growers from across the state. The association also cooperates with the NCAES and the NCDA.



COMMISSIONERS TAKE OATH OF OFFICE - Duplin County Commissioners D.J. Fussell and William Costin were sworn into office beginning a new term at Monday's meeting of the board in Kenansville. Both commissioners ran as incumbents and won re-election in the Nov. 4th

election. Administering the oath of office is Clerk of Court John A. Johnson. Pictured, left to right, Clerk of Court Johnson, Fifth District Commissioner D. J. Fussell and First District Commissioner William Costin.



RECEIVE OATH OF OFFICE - The Duplin County Register of Deeds and staff received the oath of office Monday from Judge Henry Stevens. The Register of Deeds Christine Williams ran as an incumbent and was re-elected to office. The new term began Monday after the

swearing-in ceremony. Pictured, left to right, Carol Jackson, Wanda Kissner, Mrs. Christine Williams, Julia Hinson, Johnny Gainor and Christine DeWitt. Not pictured is assistant register of deeds, Joyce Williams.

Woman Found Guilty In Shooting

Kathleen Hargrove Mathis, 24 of rural Faison, was found guilty of involuntary manslaughter by a Superior Court jury Wednesday.

Mrs. Mathis was charged with the shooting death of her husband, Roy Davis Mathis Jr., near the couple's home July 3.

Judge Robert D. Rouse Jr. sentenced Mrs. Mathis to 8 to 10 years in prison.

She appealed the conviction and was freed on bond of \$15,000.

One state's witness, Daniel Carlton of Mount

Olive, Tuesday testified he saw Mrs. Mathis raise her arm as if she were shooting and then saw Mathis fall to the ground. He also testified he saw her leave the scene near the Mathis house, come out a few minutes later and bend over the fallen man. She started screaming, he said. Carlton was plowing a soybean field at the time and said he stopped for several minutes as he was "scared to death."

Carlton finally went to his boss, David Brock, and told him about what he had seen. Brock was called to the wit-

ness stand Tuesday and testified he heard someone screaming and also heard a shot. He phoned a special deputy, Jimmy Kelly, who investigated.

When called to the witness stand, Kelly testified he found a pistol that had been recently fired in the car Mrs. Mathis had been driving. He also testified he found her in hysterics beside her husband's body. He told the court she repeatedly screamed, "I shot him."

Judge Rouse sent the jury out of the courtroom when defense attorney Joseph

Chambliss of Clinton attempted to enter a plea of self-defense on behalf of Mrs. Mathis. He refused to allow Chambliss' motion, saying there was no evidence indicating Mrs. Mathis had been attacked by her husband.

The judge instructed the jury that it could find the defendant guilty of second degree murder, voluntary manslaughter, involuntary manslaughter or not guilty. The jury received the case Wednesday morning and brought in the verdict in about 90 minutes.

Whitley Speaks

Duplin Farm City Week

Food and fiber grown on the farm today are cheaper than 20 years ago, according to the amount of labor which goes into producing them, Congressman Charlie Whitley said as he addressed the Farm-City audience at James Sprunt Technical College last week.

Third District Congressman Whitley said he is asked often about the rise in food cost. And, Whitley said, the third congressional district is classified as one of the most rural districts in the United States, according to the U.S. Census Department.

"Some would like to see major cooperatives take over agriculture," Whitley said. "But, I am committed to retaining the family farm; we have had great success between the farmers and the local businesses."

In Duplin, as well as the entire third district, he said, no business operates which does not realize the importance of the farm. The farm props up each of the businesses in this county with money going into them, Whitley said.

"What would Duplin be like, if you can imagine, without the family farm?" asked Whitley. "And, how many small businesses would be left? Farm cooperatives would cut the middleman out by purchasing products directly from the wholesalers."

Whitley added encouragement for the development of new industry in the counties of the third district. However, he said, the recruitment of environmentally sound industry which will not take much farmland or deface the beauty of the district should be the goal when recruiting new industry.

President of the Agri-Business Council Ebern Watson of Rose Hill, added farm-city week is Nov. 21-17 for a specific reason. He continued, farm-city week is a national observance which ends each year on Thanksgiving Day. Thanksgiving week is an appropriate time for the persons in this country to realize the dependence of our country on agriculture, Watson said. And, the dependence of agriculture on the products and research of the industries.

Whitley appeared as part of the events scheduled for farm-city night Nov. 25 at JSTC. Appearing with Whitley during the celebration were Duplin singing groups, Charlie Albertson and his band, the Virgil Murphy family, the East Duplin Chorus, and the 1979 Miss Duplin County Tina Brewer, along with special exhibits from local businesses and towns, agriculture, schools and industry on display in the Hoffer and

McGowan buildings. Door prizes were awarded throughout the night.

The celebration was sponsored by the Duplin County Agri-Business Council. And, earlier that day, a tractor-driving contest for the Future Farmers of America chapters in Duplin had been held on the JSTC campus. Trophies were awarded to the winners after Whitley spoke. Winning first place in the tractor-driving contest was Herbert Stroud of East Duplin and second place was awarded to East Duplin's Johnny Smith. The winning chapter was East Duplin, with James Kenan FFA club receiving second place honors in the driving contest.

Exhibits were opened Nov. 21 at JSTC, and featured displays by the town Chambers of Commerce in Wallace, Warsaw and Kenansville. Industries such as Guilford East, Reeves Brothers and Wickline displayed information about their companies and products. Agricultural exhibits were represented by Murphy Milling, Duplin Wine Cellars, Wallace Warehousemen's Association and Carroll's of Warsaw. The display furnished by Carroll's consisted of live turkeys, the grown bird, the poult, and eggs in the process of hatching. Quinn's of Warsaw, Cates Pickles

and Joan of Arc in Turkey also exhibited in the farm-city week celebration at JSTC. East Duplin High School and JSTC exhibited information about their school activities and programs. Displays at the farm-city event totaled over 50.

Door prizes were awarded each half hour of the farm-city program. And, winning the prizes were Elouise Albertson, Dr. Mike Latta, Hattie Register, Jack Smith, Willie McGowan, Billy Wilson and Rommie Hall. And, drawing the numbers for the prizes were special guests Charlie Whitley, Miss Duplin County 1980 Shari Jones and Representative Doug Clark.

FUTURES MARKETING WORKSHOP PLANNED

A futures marketing workshop is planned for December 8 and 15 at the Agricultural Building in Kenansville. The workshop is designed to help swine and grain farmers more fully understand the concepts of the commodity futures market. The eight-hour workshop will be four hours each day starting at 4 p.m. and breaking for supper at six. For more information, contact Bob Swain at the Agricultural Extension Service, or call 296-1996.