

# Duplin Times

PROGRESS SENTINEL

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## Students To Get Drug Warnings

The Duplin County Board of Education has ordered a statement to be read in junior and senior high schools warning students of possible penalties for drug abuse, after which the students must sign a statement that they understand the penalties.

Following the board's decision last Tuesday night, Superintendent C. H. Yelverton said, "We have no more or less problem than in the past, but everybody needs to know where they stand. It's just re-emphasizing our policy. The student signature thing is new

and had to be approved by the board before it could be put in force."

The statement warns students that anyone suspected of using, possessing or selling illegal drugs will be questioned and searched. If any illegal drug is found, the statement says, the student will be suspended or expelled. The sheriff's department may be notified and the case turned over to the courts. Parents also will be notified.

Handbooks, describing illegal drug use and how to detect symptoms of drug use, have been issued to teachers.

On other matters, Yelverton told the board meeting the administrative staff will present its proposed 1981-82 budget Tuesday.

The school system has been using Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) funds to train clerical and secretarial workers to meet the requirements of the Southern Association of Schools for accreditation. Assistant Superintendent Gary Sanderson said the CETA program has been frozen and might be eliminated. It means a loss of \$30,000 to the system for this fiscal year, Sanderson said.



## Julia Spicer Wins Miss Duplin County

MISS DUPLIN COUNTY 1981 - Julia A. Spicer of Kenansville was crowned Miss Duplin County 1981 Saturday night at Kenan Memorial Auditorium. Pictured are: Shari Jones, Miss Duplin County 1980; Wendy

Rivenbark, Miss Congeniality; Miss Spicer; Alice Anne Pate, first runner-up; and Gina Powell, second runner-up.

(Photo by Joni Nethercutt)

## Commissioners Award Water Contract

Accepting the low bid of \$96,278.60, the Board of Commissioners let a contract at their meeting last week to Ramey Inc. of Clemmons for a five-mile extension of the county water system.

Twenty-three bids were submitted for the project, which will add five miles of lines and 33 possible customers to the system that extends from Kenansville to Greenville. The system presently serves 110 customers.

The original 18 miles of water line cost \$384,000. The original system and the addition are being financed through grants from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Construction of the addition will begin late this month.

In other business, Blue Cross Insurance premiums will increase by 33.1 percent starting in April. Ralph Cottle, county manager, informed the board. He said company officials told him that during 1980, 94.9 percent of the premiums received for county employees were paid out in benefits.

The increase will be from \$27.69 to \$36.84 per month for each employee insured. The family plan will increase from \$76.07 to \$101.73 per month. The county pays \$24

of the employee's rate.

Cottle told the board Blue Cross officials informed him one of the reasons for the high payout in relation to premiums is that many employees do not go for treatment to Duplin General Hospital, where room rates are in the \$70 a day range, but to New Hanover County and Chapel Hill hospitals, where rates are in the \$100 range. The old rate was based on the low hospital room rate in the Duplin hospital.

The board appropriated \$62,000 for additional remodeling of the former General Hospital nurses home known as the "South Wing."

Renovation of the first floor of the structure for use as doctors' offices will be partially financed by \$60,000 from federal revenue-sharing funds. The other \$2,000 will come from a state grant for work on the second floor of the building which will be used for health department administrative offices. The board previously had appropriated \$5,000 for this purpose.

In other action, the board: — approved a motion to name the collection of 18th, 19th and early 20th century farm and home tools and equipment given the county by George Cowan of Cedar

Fork, the "Cowan Museum in Memory of Joanne Cowan Brown. Mrs. Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cowan, was killed by an automobile several years ago.

— Leased a portion of an E.E. Smith school building in Kenansville to the State Highway Patrol for \$250 per month. The fee includes heat, electricity and janitorial service.

— Approved an ordinance barring cable television service in rural areas of the county by any company that does not first obtain a franchise from the county.

— Authorized the airport commission to pay up to \$1,500 for a study to determine need for expansion of the airport runway from 3,700 feet to 5,000 feet. The county owns sufficient land at the airport site to lengthen the runway if the study shows the project to be financially feasible. Benny Wilson, airport commission chairman, reported 185 flights to and from the airport in January. Wilson said the airport is selling about 4,500 gallons of aviation fuel a month.

— Appointed Tom Rabon of Warsaw to the county mental health board to replace the late T.J. Baker of Wallace.

## 12 Bids Offered On Kenansville Water System

The apparent low bid for improvements to the water distribution system in Kenansville was \$294,960, submitted by T.A. Loving Co. of Goldsboro.

Twelve bids submitted for the contract were opened by Charles Joyner of the engineering firm of McDavid Associates of Goldsboro at the town hall Thursday. The engineering firm will review the bids and make recommendations to the town board of commissioners at its April 6 meeting.

Bids also were opened for two other related projects, a 250,000-gallon elevated water storage tank and a 250 gallons-per-minute well.

Low bid on the water tank was \$254,065 by Taylor Iron Works & Supply Co. of Macon, Ga. Four bids were entered for the work.

Four bids were entered for the well project with the low bid of \$96,008 entered by East Coast Construction Co. of Jacksonville.

The project will be financed by \$170,000 from a town bond issue approved in December 1979 and \$599,000 in grants.

Kenansville now has a 150,000-gallon water tank. It also has two wells, one pumping 300 gallons per minute and the other, 125 gallons per minute.

Distribution system improvements will replace leaking downtown lines. Most of the pipes were installed 40 years ago.

The system will be extended about one mile north along N.C. 11 and about the same distance south on N.C. 11 to the N.C. Department of Transportation facility. Another extension will run about half a mile along N.C. 14 east toward Beulaville.

About 30,000 feet of pipe line and 35 fire hydrants will

be installed.

The second lowest bidder for the distribution system was \$307,144 from Cumberland Paving Co. of Fayetteville. Third lowest bid of \$314,763 was submitted by R & B Contract Associates of Princeton.

Second lowest water tank bid was \$273,745 from Brown

Steel Contractors of Newman, Ga. Third lowest bid was \$278,914 from Universal Tank — Iron Works of Atlanta, Ga.

Second low bid on the well was \$99,850 from Register Well Co. of Rose Hill. Third lowest bid was \$106,200 from Sopar Utilities of Jacksonville.

## Williams Died In House Fire

The man who died in a house fire in Warsaw last Wednesday night was identified Thursday as Thomas Williams, 51, according to Warsaw Fire Chief Frank Steed.

The fire destroyed the house at 113 West Best Street in which Williams lived.

Steed said the house was filled with flame and smoke when the fire department arrived. The flames were quelled in about five minutes. The body of Williams was found in the kitchen with his head sticking through a

broken window pane. Williams was about four feet from the outside kitchen door.

The fire chief said he believed the fire started in a

faulty chimney. The frame house contained six rooms.

It was the second fatal fire in Warsaw in 30 days. Deems Wiggs died of smoke inhalation in the earlier fire which

ravaged his apartment.

There have only been about five fire-related deaths in Warsaw in the past 10 years, Steed said.

## Justice Sticks To Old Methods With Horse And Human Power

Willard Justice farms with horse-power and believes he puts more money in his pocketbook at the end of the year than many with larger farms who have rejected animal power for machinery.

Although Justice uses tractors for some things, he depends mostly on his team of horses to attend to his cucumbers, sweet potatoes and six acres of tobacco.

This week he was plowing, walking behind a two-horse plow in a manner known well to generations of farmers.

"Some people want to go out in the woods and chase coon and get all muddy and wet and that's good for them," Justice said. "I don't. I like to get behind a pair of mules or horses and plow. It's work for me to ride a tractor. I've bought a dozen and worn them all out."

An abundance of livestock gives Justice's farm an "old-timey" look. Chickens, goats

and guinea fowl wander about the yard while hogs grunt and squeal in their pen. Justice also keeps two cows for milk and some calves for beef.

Justice's son, Allen, also farms with his father on the 71 acres of cropland. Another son, Shelton, lives nearby and teaches in Kenansville.

Eth lives in relatively new brick homes. Their father lives in the frame farm house built many years ago.

"This farm put both boys through college," Justice said. "And I paid for it with cash."

Justice said the farm provides most of the food for his and his sons' families. "At the end of the year, we killed

13 hogs, cut them up and put the meat in freezers. We take two head of beef to the locker and have them cut up. I'm not a cow butcher. I took up 31 eggs yesterday," Justice noted.

The chickens look the part of the traditional farm flock of varied colors and species, not the uniform white of commercial flocks.

"A lot of boys who lost their farms would still have them if they'd've kept a pair of mules," Justice said.

"Lots of farmers started out small, like me, but started adding equipment and cost, and when they hit hard times, they couldn't hold out," he said.

Justice began farming with his father, who had 100 acres and six horses or mules. He bought his present farm 30 years ago. "I started farming here with a pair of red (sorrel) mules with white manes. They were pretty, too," he said.

"Lown what I have. I don't owe anyone. I believe when the year's over, I end up with more clear money in my pocketbook than most farmers."

## Kenansville Board Alters Parking Rules

The Kenansville Board of Commissioners changed parking regulations last week to counter a hazardous situation at the corner of Cooper Street and N.C. 11-24 beside Graham House Inn.

The board also heard a complaint about the lack of late-night police protection.

The commissioners banned parking within 25 feet of the street corner at the intersection of Cooper and N.C. 11-24 because board members said parking nearer the corner had created congestion. The board declared a space of 20 feet on each side of a fire hydrant beside N.C. 11-24, across from the inn, out of bounds for parking and ordered the space marked by yellow lines.

The lack of money prevents the town from maintaining 24-hour police protection, the board was told.

Responding to the complaint of Jimmy Jackson, owner of Jackson's IG, on N.C. 11-24, about no officer on duty when the store's burglar alarm sounded at 4 a.m. one day the week before, Mayor Doug Judge

said, "We are aware our police protection is inadequate."

Jackson said three hours had elapsed between a call to police and response at another time. He told the board his parked pick-up truck was struck by a car at 7:15 a.m., and although he said he called police immediately, no officer contacted him until 10 a.m.

"It'd take five policemen to give us 24-hour protection and as small as we are, we just can't afford it," Commissioner Earl Hatcher commented.

The town, with a population under 1,000, has two police officers.

The board voted to return to the government a \$79,000 grant to restore the historic Pearsall House. The house was destroyed by fire before restoration work could be started. The property will revert to Mrs. J.E. Quinn, its former owner.

Town Attorney W.E. Craft was directed to ask Rep. Doug Clark to prepare a local bill authorizing Kenansville to charge up to \$5 for town license tags. The town has been charging \$1 and plans

to increase the fee to \$2. The board decided to ask for the \$5 authorization in case future fee increases become necessary.

It also ordered town police to enforce the ordinance requiring town residents to purchase tags. The board has not made it mandatory for car owners to display the tags.

Larry Hoffman, town maintenance supervisor, was directed to notify property owners to remove junked vehicles from their premises. Hoffman reported 29 such vehicles were found on lots in the town.

The board also agreed to reduce the most recent water bill of the United Methodist Church from \$79 to the minimum of \$12. The high bill resulted from water pipes breaking in freezing weather in January and February.

### ALBERTSON SOFTBALL

The Albertson Recreation Center is beginning the spring softball leagues for women and men. If interested, call Tom Turner at 568-3982 or 568-7787 (daytime) before April 25th.

## Officers Absolved

Former Magnolia Police Officer Virgil Malpass and Duplin Deputy E.G. Baker were found not guilty of violating the civil rights of George Reynolds Evans Sr. of Wilmington by Magistrate Charles K. McCotter in U.S. Fourth District court in Raleigh Friday.

Evans, who is currently serving a prison sentence after being convicted on a charge of armed robbery in New Hanover County Superior Court in 1977, claimed his civil rights were violated at the time of his arrest and asked that the conviction be overturned.

Evans gave notice of appeal to the Fourth Circuit Court at Richmond, Va.

He was arrested near Magnolia in April 1977 on suspicion of auto larceny and armed robbery by Malpass, who had been alerted by the state highway patrol. He called for help from the

Duplin sheriff's department.

The conviction for armed robbery stood up through appeals, according to evidence presented the magistrate.

E. C. Thompson III, Magnolia lawyer, represented Malpass, and Rusty Lanier, the county lawyer, represented Baker, a deputy sheriff.

## Bloodmobile In Faison

March 23

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile will be in Faison at the Fire and Rescue Building on Monday, March 23 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

Sprunt Hall Jr. says, "As you know, the entire process of donating blood takes about one hour. The blood itself is indeed needed by very many. One donation can go to help

as many as four people. Won't you give of your time and share your good fortune of health with someone in need? In order to reach our goal of 100 pints, we need your help. Did you know that less than 5% of the population gives 100% of the blood? How does this seem fair? Please come and help to make this our most successful visit ever."