

# Duplin Times

PROGRESS SENTINEL

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## Duplin Officials Disappointed School Budget Public Hearing

Only five residents attended the public hearing held in Kenansville last week on a nearly \$2.5 million 1981-82 fiscal year school budget.

In opening the hearing, Board Chairman E.L. Boyette commented: "I'm very disappointed at the apparent lack of interest in this matter. I had expected far more people."

The hearing on the budget for county funding had been announced in area papers and radio stations for the past month. Officials had expected a much larger attendance.

Residents attending included Steve and Nancy Williams of Kenansville and Betsy Brewer, Roy Barwick

and Linda Kitchin of Warsaw. Three newspaper reporters were on hand.

The budget calls for an increase of about \$330,000 over the present budget. Without other sources of funds, the proposed figure would add six cents to the county ad valorem tax if accepted by the county board of commissioners. Each cent of ad valorem tax brings in about \$53,000.

During the hearing, the board refused to recognize or answer questions from the press.

Following the hearing, two board members said they would favor a tax increase to bring in the additional money.

Boyette answered a question about whether he would

favor a tax increase to pay for additional money requested in the budget with, "Yes, if that is the only way to get the money needed."

Board member Jimmy Strickland also indicated he favored raising the county ad valorem tax if necessary to obtain the additional money.

Board member Patricia Broadrick said she thought it unfair the county had to attempt to come up with a budget before state and federal funding could be determined. She said the board may have to come back and re-do its entire budget if the fund cuts now being discussed in Raleigh and Washington are enacted.

Williams, representing the James Kenan school district Band Boosters Club, asked

the board during the hearing to add \$600 a year to the salary of the district school band director because of the extra time put into this job. The requested increase was already in the proposed budget, Boyette said. The district includes James Kenan High School west of Warsaw, E.E. Junior High School in Kenansville and Warsaw Junior High School.

Williams also said the district needs \$10,000 to buy band instruments. The district has a 110-member band with 66 in the marching band, he added.

He said the Band Boosters Club raised \$3,500 last year to purchase 29 band uniforms. In addition, students had to add \$45 per uniform to complete the purchase.



**4-H LEADER BANQUET** - The annual 4-H Leaders' banquet was held March 27th at The Country Squire. Riddick E. Wilkins, a retired county extension agent, was presented the outstanding citizen award. Nominees for the award also included Miss Cornelia Best, W.F. Johnson,

Mrs. Yottie Teachey and Thelma M. Weatherly. Pictured - Wilkins, Jeff and Linda Smith who presented "A Salute to Leaders" program. Lois Britt, county extension chairman, Ray Rhinehart, 4-H assistant extension agent, and Jack Williams, president of the Duplin County Farm Bureau.

## Planning Board Proposes Building Inspections Department

Planning Board Chairman Ivey Harper and Duplin Development Director John Gurganus presented the Duplin County Board of Commissioners with a proposed building inspection department for the County at the most recent meeting.

Gurganus explained that the state has mandated that every county have a building inspection department by 1983 or the state will send in its inspection department and bill the county for the services. The cost for the first year is estimated at \$94,000, according to Harper. After equipment is bought, the annual cost should be about \$68,000 with a projected income from fees

at \$67,000 per year, according to a study by the North Carolina Department of Natural Resources and Community Development Agent Melba Laney.

Presently the county maintains an electrical and insulation inspection department manned by Warren Dall, who is paid from permit fees.

The proposal recommends that a county inspection department be established to provide a full range of inspection services - a full-time staff or a chief building inspector (electrical, mechanical) a building and insulation inspector, a plumbing inspector and a secretary or receptionist with an office near the court-

house.

The following permit fees were recommended: No permit fee shall be required for construction less than \$200. A new dwelling up to 1,200 square feet, a fee of \$175 and for 1,200 square feet and over, \$225. The fees for residential additions, 0 to 400 square feet, \$50, and over 400 square feet, \$75. Multi-family dwellings, \$200 for the first unit, and \$100 for each additional unit. A fee of \$40 for mobile homes, for reconnect, service pole, change of service, bulk barns, barns, farm buildings, pumps, accessory buildings, field lights, signs, and requires, a fee of \$20 per trade inspection. Also, a fee of \$20 would be charged for re-

inspections. Non-residential construction would begin at \$20 for the first 200 square feet of construction and continue according to the construction cost.

The board recommended the inspectors be provided county-owned vehicles equipped with two-way radios, as well as the inspection department offer to perform municipal building inspections, and the county join the Southern Building Code Congress International.

Chairman of the County Commissioners Allen Nethercutt stated the board would study the recommendations, but before any plan was adopted a public hearing would be held.

## 4-H'ers Name Wilkins Outstanding Citizen

Riddick E. Wilkins of Warsaw was named Duplin County's outstanding citizen of the year Friday night by the county 4-H club organization.

Nominees for this recognition must be 50 years of age or older. They are judged on involvement in community, church, family and service

activities. This is the sixth year the recognition has been made. The county Farm Bureau chapter sponsors the recognition program.

Wilkins was nominated by the Stanford 4-H Club of the Kenansville area.

He is a retired agricultural extension agent, a post he held for 30 years in Duplin

County. He is a deacon of the First Baptist Church in Warsaw. He also is a leader of the county chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Wilkins is a graduate of N.C. Agricultural and Technical University.

Previous winners were Thomas Hall and Holmes

Murphy, jointly in 1976; W.J. Costin and D.J. Kilpatrick, jointly in 1978; Milford Quinn, 1979, and Dr. Edwin P. Ewers, 1980.

Linda Dianne Smith vocational rehabilitation counselor at N.C. Memorial Hospital at Chapel Hill and a former Duplin 4-H'er, conducted the program.

## Phil Hardy Receives Kenansville DSA Award

By Joni Nethercutt

Phil Hardy was presented the 1981 Distinguished Service Award by the Kenansville Jaycees during their annual DSA banquet held at the Graham House Inn on March 23.

Several awards were presented to outstanding citizens. These included: outstanding young farmer, which was awarded to Paul Phillips; outstanding educator, received by George Garner; Lafayette Hall was the recipient of the out-

standing correctional officer award; and Mrs. Sally Eva Tyndall was honored with the senior citizen award.

Ronnie Jones, president of the Kenansville Jaycees, commented before the awards were presented, that the banquet and awards were recognizing not just Jaycees, but community endeavor, complete community involvement.

Upon presenting the DSA to Phil Hardy, Rich Boyd, the 1980 DSA winner, expressed that "it is one thing to move a community, but it is more to help a community move."

The DSA recipient is the person singled out who exhibits meritorious service to his community, said Boyd.

Hardy is employed at the probation office in Kenansville. He is a member of the Jaycees and the Kenansville Fire Department. He is a youth leader and Sunday School teacher. He also coaches Little League baseball. Last year Phil received the outstanding correctional officer award from the Jaycees.

Paul Phillips operates Phillips Farms and the New Duplin Warehouse. He is a

member of the Farm Bureau and the Young Farmers Association.

George Garner is a criminal justice instructor at James Sprunt Technical College.

Lafayette Hall works for the Department of Corrections in Kenansville. He coaches softball at the Youth Center.

Mrs. Sally Tyndall is active in the Silver Streakers, the Hospital Auxiliary and the Kenansville Baptist Church. She is retired from the ASCS office in Kenansville.

## Elderly Woman Raped, Robbed

A woman in her late 80s or early 90s was raped and robbed Saturday afternoon at her home on Sixth Street in Rose Hill, according to police.

The attack occurred about 4:15 p.m., and the victim was taken to Duplin General Hospital in Kenansville. Information on her condition was not available Saturday night.

The assailant was described as a black male, approximately 29, six feet tall with a slim build, dark complexion and medium cut afro. When last seen, he was wearing a red shirt and blue jeans.

Police said a man in a red shirt reportedly boarded a southbound bus shortly after the incident occurred, but he was not on the bus when it arrived in Burgaw.

Information on the amount of money stolen from the victim was not available.

A Rose Hill man was arrested in Wilmington Sunday on charges of second degree rape and robbery in connection with the assault. Joe Lee Barnes, 30, of Rose Hill was jailed in the Duplin County Jail in lieu of \$50,000 bond. He was arrested Sunday by Wilmington police and transferred to Duplin County.



**WARSAW JAYCEE DSA RECIPIENT** - Al Beard was presented the Distinguished Service Award by the Warsaw Jaycees. He is pictured here with his wife, Betty.

## Warsaw Jaycees Present Al Beard DSA

The Warsaw Jaycees presented the Distinguished Service Award to Al Beard at their annual banquet at the Country Squire on March 26.

Other award winners Thursday night included: Outstanding Teenagers - Darret Ezzell; and Sonja Kernstine; Outstanding Young Law Officer - James W. Vinson; Outstanding Young Educator - Lee Patterson (Pat) Matthis; and Outstanding Young Farmer - Dennis Graham.

Al Beard is vice president and city manager at the Warsaw Branch Bank and Trust Co. He is a member of the Rotary Club and is a Jaycee.

Darret Ezzell is the son of Mr. and Mrs. James L. Ezzell of Warsaw. He attends James Kenan, is active in sports and the Boy Scouts, and is a member of the FFA.

Miss Kernstine also attends James Kenan. She is involved in music and sports, is a member of the National Honor Society and yearbook staff. Kernstine was a Morehead nominee.

James Vinson is a Faison native and has served four years as a law officer. He graduated from East University. Vinson is a member of the fire and rescue squad.

Pat Matthis is a James Kenan and East Carolina University graduate and teaches elementary education at Warsaw Elementary School. He serves as school chairman of the March of Dimes and is a member of Ducks Unlimited.

The Outstanding Young Farmer, Dennis Graham, has been farming for six years. He is a member of the Warsaw Fire Department

and the Warsaw Baptist Church.

The guest speaker at the Warsaw DSA banquet was the Rev. Ted Wilson of the Mount Olive United Methodist Church and a former pastor of the Warsaw United Church. Rev. Wilson is a former Warsaw Jaycee and a past recipient of the DSA.

## Named Director

Arthur Kennedy, chairman of the board of directors of Coastal Production Credit Association, has announced the appointment of Wilbur Earl Earp to the board to fill the unexpired term of Edwin S. Clemmons, who resigned Jan. 29 due to health related problems. Clemmons had served as director since Jan. 1, 1960.



**KENANSVILLE JAYCEE AWARDS BANQUET** - Back row, left to right, George Garner - outstanding educator; Paul Phillips - outstanding young farmer; Phil Hardy - DSA winner; Ronnie James - president Kenansville Jaycees. Front, Mrs. Sally Tyndall, senior citizen award winner, and Lafayette Hall, outstanding correctional officer.