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Duplin County Elected Office Holders Announce Intentions For Filing

Most Duplin County elected officials whose terms expire in 1982, have acknowledged their intentions to file for re-election. Two are undecided and only one says, definitely no. The books open for filing January 4 in Kenansville at the Board of Elections office.



John Anderson Johnson — Yes. Clerk of Superior Court John Anderson Johnson says he will file for his 4th term as clerk of court. He was named to fill an unexpired term. In September of 1970, Mr. Wells retired and Johnson was named to fill his unexpired term in office. He has run successfully three times since then.



Calvin C. Turner — Yes. County Commissioner Calvin Turner stated that as things stand now, he will be filing for re-election. Turner's first term of four years will expire in 1982. He serves the 2nd commissioner district.



Edward L. Boyette — Undecided. School Board member Dr. E.L. Boyette stated he is not yet ready to make his intentions known but is leaning toward not filing for re-election. Boyette was first elected to the Board of Education in 1967. 1982 will begin his 15th year as a Board member. The 1982 elections for school board members will be for four years (previously six years). Also, the elections will be confined to county commissioner districts. (Previously the elections were county-wide.) Boyette serves the third district.



S. Franklin Williams — Undecided. County Commissioner Franklin Williams stated that due to sickness in his family, he was unable to state for sure whether he would file or not. He was elected to his present term in 1978, over long-time County Commissioner Willard Hoffer. He serves the 4th commissioners district.



Allen Nethercutt — Yes. County Commissioner Allen Nethercutt stated he would be filing for re-election to his third commissioners district. Nethercutt was elected to his first four-year and present term in 1978.



Harold Hardison — Yes. State Senator Harold Hardison of Deep Run stated he would seek re-election to his sixth two-year term.



Charlie Whitley — Yes.

Congressman Charlie Whitley stated he would seek re-election to office for his 4th term.



Graham A. Phillips Jr. — No. School Board member Graham Phillips announced Tuesday of last week he would not seek another term on the Board of Education. Phillips said, "The school board is one of the most important elected offices in the county. It affects more lives and more futures. I have been on the board for 13 years. I think it needs some new energy and new ideas. I am extremely thankful to the people of Duplin County for allowing me to serve." Phillips serves the 4th district.



Elwood Revelle — Yes. Duplin County Sheriff Revelle stated he would file for his 6th term Monday. Revelle ran successfully for sheriff in 1962. However, before he was sworn in office in December, Sheriff Ralph Miller died and Revelle was named to the office in September of 1962.



William Andrews — Yes. District Attorney William (Bill) Andrews stated he would seek re-election to his second full four-year term. Andrews was appointed to fill part of Walter Britt's term when he retired in 1975. Andrews then ran successfully to fill the other two years of the term in 1976. He was elected to his first full four-year term in 1978. The fourth judicial district consists of Duplin, Jones, Onslow and Sampson Counties.



Douglas Clark — Yes. State Representative Douglas Clark of Kenansville stated he would seek re-election to his third two-year term. As the State redistricting plans are not completely settled at this time, just when filing for office or what area is to be served is not known for the Congressional (Charlie Whitley) son) or State House (Douglas Clark).

Filing for county offices opens Monday, January 4th

at 12 noon and closes at 12 noon on Monday, Feb. 1st.

The sheriff's race has heated up even before filing date. Three say they will file for sheriff.



George Garner Jr. of Kenansville states he plans for better-trained deputies and 24-hour county coverage. Garner is presently employed at James Sprunt Technical College as a law enforcement training instructor.

Hunt Names Mayor Brown To JSTC Board

Governor Jim Hunt has named Alex Brown of Rose Hill to the James Sprunt Technical College Board of Trustees.

Brown is mayor of Greenviers and is a businessman. He is active in church affairs, a past president of a Parents-Teachers Association in Duplin County and a former Masonic Lodge master.

The Board of Trustees consists of 13 members -- four appointed by the Governor, four by the local Board of Education, four by the Board of County Commissioners, plus the president of the student government association who serves as an ex-officio non-voting member. Members serve terms of eight years.



Jimmy Hatcher of Lyman. Hatcher states he plans better communication between the sheriff's department and the people of Duplin County. Hatcher is a farmer and contractor.



David Underhill from northern Duplin says he will provide better organization and direction. Underhill is presently the county sanitary landfill and mosquito control program supervisor.

Duplin VFDs Saved County Thousands

Duplin County volunteer fire departments answered 889 fire calls during the first 11 months of 1981, according to Milo Pickett of Chinquapin, president of the Duplin County Firemen's Association.

Pickett told the county Board of Commissioners last week that an average of 12 men answered each call and the calls averaged one hour each. If the volunteers were paid even the minimum wage, he said, their time would have been worth \$35,000.

Pickett also supported County Building Inspector Brice Sanderson's contention that many of the house fires that occurred in cold weather resulted from improper installation of wood burning stoves.

Sanderson said the new wood burning stoves are "super efficient heaters" and many of the chimneys in older houses lack sufficient insulation. He also noted creosote can build up if the chimney is not properly cleaned.

Commission Chairman Calvin C. Turner noted that if a person installed a wood burning heater as the primary heat source in his house and failed to inform the insurance company, some companies would reduce the amount they would pay if fire damage occurred.

Emil Coggins, fire training coordinator for James Sprunt Technical College at Kenansville, said he had trained 440 people. The trainees put in 11,352 hours of training.

"Duplin has one of the best volunteer fire department organizations in the

nine counties that I work," Coggins said.

Sanderson will meet with the county firemen's association Jan. 13 at Teachey to discuss possible steps to reduce the fire hazard, possibly through free inspections of the installations either by the county building inspector or the local fire department.

The county provides each of the 18 volunteer fire departments in the county \$300 per month.

In other action at last week's board meeting:

The board agreed to provide sleeping quarters and space for a laboratory for three North Carolina State University entomology students for three months during the summer. The students will study the effect of the mosquito control program in the county.

County Extension Chairman Lois Britt announced the county 4-H recognition banquet will be held Jan. 25 at the Country Squire on N.C. 24 west of Kenansville.

The board agreed to continue leasing space in a building near E.E. Smith School in Kenansville to the state Employment Security Commission for \$400 a month for 1982.

The board agreed to accept a bid of \$8,308 from Phelps Motor Co. of Warsaw for a 1982 Ford Granada for Hiram Brinson, county emergency service coordinator. While the bid of Brewer Motors of Wallace at \$7,660 for an Aries K Dodge was lower, it was determined the radio equipment required by the coordinator would not fit properly in the Dodge.

Ok For Watershed Work Due Soon

The official "go ahead" on long-awaited watershed projects for Limestone and Muddy Creeks in eastern Duplin County should be received within the week, according to Kenneth Futreal, Duplin district soil conservationist.

"They (administrators at the state Soil Conservation Service office in Raleigh) expect some work this week at the state level," Futreal said last week. "As soon as that comes, we can sign the agreements (district and state) and call for bids."

With a required 30-day notice for bids, Futreal said bids possibly could be opened in early February if everything proceeds as expected.

However, the start of construction will be delayed until July, he said, due to an agreement with the state Wildlife Commission and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to avoid disturbing stream beds during the spawning period for shad and herring.

"Due to the potential environmental impact, we can do no work on the streams between February and

June," Futreal added.

An important part of the projects includes soil treatment by land owners to prevent erosion. Soil lost from fields and woodlands could clog channels after they had been cleaned out, Futreal said.

"We have to work out detailed plans with the land owners and sign contracts with them," he said. "We can cost share with them on several measures."

The Soil Conservation Service can pay 75 percent of the average cost of critical (erosion) area stabilization and field borders. It can pay 60 percent of the average cost of developing animal waste disposal lagoons and grass-filled waterways, and \$10 per acre for minimum tillage costs.

About 700 people own land in the affected area that encompasses about 71,000 acres. Futreal estimated 250 to 300 long term contracts will be needed to ensure necessary protective land measures are taken.

An example of the type of work needed in the area was portrayed by a jagged, eroding drainage ditch on property owned by Danny

Price and Arnold Gresham about four miles north of Beulaville, Futreal said.

"It was a property line ditch that turned into a gully. We estimated 25,000 to 30,000 tons of soil washed out in 18 months," he added. That lost soil eventually was carried into Limestone Creek and the Northeast Cape Fear River, Futreal said.

The ditch partially was filled and the banks smoothed to form a grassy waterway. An eight-inch tile line was laid in the bottom of the gully to drain excess water without taking the soil with it.

Two hundred years of soil erosion from farm fields and channel cluttering from logging operations have caused water to flood fields and forest following heavy rainfall in the area.

The two projects' land treatment measures are expected to cut soil loss from an average of 4.2 tons per acre per year to 2.7 tons.

The total cost of the projects, including value of easements, is estimated to be about \$5 million. The projects have been in the discussion and planning stages for nearly 20 years.



LOOKING OVER THE LIMESTONE MUDDY CREEK MAP - are, left to right, Kenneth Futreal, D.J. Fussell, Calvin Turner, Allen Nethercutt and William Costin.