

# Duplin Times

## PROGRESS SENTINEL

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### Warsaw To Study Cable TV Plans

The Warsaw town board will compare two cable television service proposals in a special meeting later this month.

The town's first cable operator, Clear-Tel of Hope Mills, was unable to meet franchise requirements and relinquished its franchise last month.

The town board approved the first reading of a proposed franchise to Beasley Cable Television Co. at its last meeting.

Univision Cable Television Co. of Richlands, which has franchises for rural Duplin County and for Wallace, Rose Hill, Beulaville, Teachey, Magnolia and Calypso, did not make Warsaw an offer until Monday night.

Following the Univision presentation, the board agreed to call a special meeting to compare the two proposals.

Univision has been slow in

meeting performance bond requirements, but vice president Gail Bailey said the firm has provided \$50,000 in letters of credit in lieu of bonds to Wallace and Rose Hill. She said the county will receive a letter of credit. She told the board the company is forming a limited partnership that will solve its financial needs.

Univision engineer Bob Towers said the company has spent \$500,000 in Richlands, where cable service will go into operation in a few weeks. He said the Duplin town and county systems will require an investment of about \$3.2 million. The company will install its main station near Chinquapin, with microwave receiving stations in each community it serves.

Ms. Bailey said Univision would be able to purchase Warsaw maps and installations from Clear-Tel which would permit it to provide

service to the town in about six months.

In other action, the board agreed to extend city water lines one mile beyond the city limits on N.C. 24 and Wards Bridge Road east of Warsaw.

### Howard Back For Sentencing

The Rev. Sheldon Howard, confessed murderer of Inez Jernigan, is scheduled to be returned to Duplin County next week for sentencing in Superior Court, according to the Superior Court calendar for the week of January 25th.

Howard, who plead guilty to second degree murder charges in Duplin Superior Court in early December, has been in Central Prison in Raleigh and at Dorthea Dix for evaluation.

Henry L. Stevens III will be the presiding judge.



**PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND** - Preservation Hall Jazz band, a group of New Orleans musicians who have traveled the world playing the famous music they created decades ago, will hold a concert on January 28 in the Kenan Memorial Auditorium in Kenansville at 8 p.m. Now in their 60s, 70s and 80s, the band members still play with the spirit and joy that is symbolic of New Orleans jazz. The band is the third performance of the 1981-82 Tar Heel Fine Arts Society in Duplin County. Preservation Hall Jazz helped bring musicians together the marches, quadrilles, blues, spirituals and ragtime which created what is known as New Orleans jazz. Preservation Hall in New Orleans originally was a place where the musicians could get together to play mostly for their own pleasure. Now people from all over the world pack the benches each night to hear jazz as it was played when it was created. In addition, Preservation Hall Jazz

Bands have traveled throughout the world to bring their music to audiences everywhere. The music they play is simple in technical terms but complex in performance. Because they improvise as they go along, each concert is an original that will never be reconstructed in exactly the same way.

Season membership tickets for the concert are available through members of the Tar Heel Fine Arts Society board of directors or at the door. The season membership will also include the final two presentations by the Society for this year. Marco Valenti, a tenor soloist, will perform March 4 and the season concludes April 19 with duo-pianists, the Marlowe Brothers. Jeffrey and Ronald Marlowe are identical twins and perform a series of classical pieces by Bach, Brahms and Mozart as well as the Beatles.

### Duplin Outdoor Drama Society Board Meets

The Duplin Outdoor Drama Society met in December at the Duplin County Board of Education to discuss and make plans for the 1982 Liberty Cart season.

James Strickland presided. Jim Johnson, general manager, presented the proposed budget and it was approved by members present. Johnson announced that THE LIBERTY CART had received a state grant from the theater arts division of the North Carolina Department of Cultural

Resources. The \$11,680 will be used for salary support, extension of the season by one week, and the addition of an alternate production, GODSPELL, on Wednesday nights of the summer season.

It was decided that Johnson, David Thomas, director, and Carol Hawkins, stage manager, will attend the Southeastern Theatre Conference in Louisville, Ky., and the Institute of Outdoor Drama in Chapel Hill. The 1982 company will be hired from these two auditions and theatre job contact services.

It was also decided by the society that the advertising budget be increased to help reach a more diversified audience. Individual comments were made by board members. Present at the meeting also were Russell Tucker, Annie M. Kenion, W.E. Craft, L.S. Guy Jr., Doc Brinson, Winifred Mosley and Tom Kenan.

For more information, call Jim Johnson at (919) 296-0721 or write THE LIBERTY CART, P.O. Box 470, Kenansville, NC 28349.

## Wallace To Apply For Sewage Treatment Plant

While start of construction of the long-proposed Wallace sewage treatment plant will be at least two years off, Steve Routh, town administrator, said he had received the go-ahead to make application for Phase II of the project.

Phase II includes prepara-

### Kenansville Area C of C To Meet

The annual meeting of the general membership of the Kenansville Area Chamber of Commerce, Inc. will be held Thursday, Jan. 21st at the Kenansville United Methodist Church. Bruce H. Robinson Jr., attorney, will be the speaker-entertainer. He is a professional magician as well as attorney.

The meeting will begin with a dutch buffet dinner catered by the ladies of the church, beginning at 7 p.m.

tion of engineering specifications and drawings needed before construction.

Wallace remains No. 40 on the priority list for funding for such projects. Routh said. He added the priority list includes more than 300 such projects.

Routh said need for the Wallace project had been established. The town has been under a virtual "no growth" situation due to lack of sewage treatment capacity.

However, he added, state environmental officials do not know how much money will be allocated North Carolina for the federal share of the cost of needed sewage treatment facilities for fiscal 1982. Congress has failed to

pass the necessary funding bill, even though the 1982 fiscal year began last Oct. 1.

"We need to have everything ready and in place, when and if sufficient money is allotted for us to receive our share," Routh said.

In estimating construction begin in about two years, Routh added, "I suppose they said the same thing two years ago, too."

The federal government normally pays 75 percent of the cost of such projects, the state 12.5 percent and the local government 12.5 percent. Wallace has available its share of the cost.

The town board, meeting Thursday night, concluded its activity by recessing until 7:30 Monday at the town

Hall, when it was to hear David N. Henderson, former Wallace lawyer and Third District congressman, discuss the status of the American Legion building and ballfield. Routh said the town has leased the ballfield for summer sports programs for several years.

The board Thursday night instructed Routh to prepare a referendum on pension plans. The board has been discussing a proposed change from a private pension plan to the state operated plan.

Following a hearing on two amendments to the town zoning ordinance, designed to allow town house development, the board sent back the proposals to the

planning board for further study.

Eastern Heritage Development Corp. of Florida is proposing to build 40 town house-type dwelling units. Routh estimated the completed project would have a value of about \$1 million.

The town needs to define the term "town house" and establish regulations for such a project, he added. No one appeared in opposition to the town house project or the proposed amendments.

Routh also was directed to obtain cost estimates on recodification of the town code. The last recodification was done in 1941. The administrator said cost probably would range from \$9,000 to \$10,000.

### Group Gets Time To Save Old Building

A group attempting to save the former Rose Hill school gymnasium for a community athletic facility was given 60 days to see what it could do with the deteriorating structure.

Appearing before the town board last week were Jack Frederick, Larry Price, Donnie Butler and Ben Mathis as a "save our gym" committee.

Frederick said the group had a petition with 350 signatures asking to have the building opened for basketball and other activities. He

asked for permission to study the structure's condition to determine repair costs and to raise funds for the project.

Mayor Ben Harrell and Commissioner Keith Hinson estimated \$15,000 to \$20,000 will be needed to repair the structure.

The board delayed opening the four bids it had received for demolishing the wooden structure, which was built in the 1930s.

Frederick will report his findings to the board at its March 9 meeting.

Price called the structure the last landmark built by the

people of Rose Hill. Now, children and teens go to Wallace and adults to Magnolia for basketball and other such activities, he said.

Hinson, who heads the recreation board, said the town board had done very little with the building for the past three years.

"Supervision was the big problem," he said. "I remember when one bunch of kids locked another bunch of kids in the gym, and if that building had caught on fire, there's not enough insurance in the town to have paid out on what could have happened."

### Jaycee Week

January 18-24, 1982, is Jaycee Week in North Carolina. The Kenansville Jaycees are proud of their community and of the services they provide. The Jaycee Creed contains the following line, "That service to humanity is the best work of life," and the Kenansville Jaycees believe this line to be of utmost importance in describing the purpose of what Jaycees are all about.

Some projects that are undertaken each year by the Kenansville Jaycees include monthly prayer breakfasts, distinguished service awards banquet, Christmas parties for senior citizens at Guardian Care and Whaley's Rest Home, and jelly sales now going on providing all North Carolinians with a burg center in Chapel Hill.

If we are to keep the tobacco price support program, we are going to have to make some changes and police our own program. This is the message Congressman Charlie Whitley gave at the Warsaw-Kenansville Rotary meeting Thursday.

Whitley stated that we are going to have to look very carefully at the program and ensure there will be no cost to the federal government (taxpayers).

"Last year is considered a good year; the best tobacco crops in a long time. Yet the stabilization program people bought 8.6 percent. This is not bad compared to other years when stabilization bought into the teens. However, 8.6 percent is 106 million pounds. The average price stabilization paid was \$1.50. This comes to \$160 million. The interest on the money used to purchase this tobacco cost the government a little over 14 percent. Thus the stabilization program, when it sells the tobacco, must get the support price (a



price it would normally pay in the warehouse plus 14 percent, plus storage. To ensure a no-cost situation, we may be looking at a penny-a-pound check-off to create a loss reserve."

The tobacco rent price, if it remains, Whitley noted, may come under some type of control, possibly tied to a percentage. He noted there are many factors. "It adds to the high price of American tobacco competing on the world market. Some elderly people are depending on it as a Social Security supplement. Young fam-

ers who are renting are straining to keep their heads above water. They need lower rents. Our opponents in Congress argue it is a 'feudal system'. The argument goes that 'We are paying someone for a federal right' and 'That shouldn't be.'"

Whitley said, "I think we are definitely going to have to make some changes. To keep this support we must demonstrate we are sincerely trying to change the program in a way that will avoid costing the federal government. And, for our own protection, I think we need to change it in a way so we won't price ourselves right off the world and domestic markets. We have cigarette manufacturers here in America today who are buying increasing amounts of offshore tobacco. If they can get the quality of tobacco they need, and increasingly the quality of overseas tobacco has been getting better while ours has been going down as a result of, partially as a result of just our present

harvesting and culture practices... mechanical harvesting... bulk curing... The way we handle it now... certainly tends to depress the quality from a few years ago when we had a lot of hand labor in it..."

"Hearings will be held this year in Congress with input from all segments of the tobacco industry... the allotment owners, the growers, the warehousemen, the buyers, the manufacturers... everyone involved," says Whitley. "We will get the very best evidence we can and make changes to the program as fair as possible to all concerned. And help preserve the program which is so important to the economy of eastern North Carolina."

On the economy, Whitley said he believed the budget will come up \$100 million in the red. He believes a tax increase is almost a certainty. He will not vote for a tax increase on gasoline. He stated he believes it is wrong to put taxes on gasoline to offset deficiencies in areas not related to roads.

### Dallas Herring Pursues History

Jr. decided not to reappoint him.

Herring, a casket manufacturer, said in a telephone interview that he is semi-retired.

Herring lost the sight of his left eye in an air rifle accident when he was a child. He said glaucoma has now affected his right eye but he can still drive to and from work and read a little. He also suffers from high blood pressure and uses a cane to walk.

"But I'm doing very well, relieved from the pressure," he said.

His main activity these days is with the historical society.

Herring said he keeps the society's library open in his home from 7 p.m. to mid-

night daily and there is almost always somebody there doing research.

Except for his membership on the board of trustees of James Sprunt Technical College, Herring is no longer active in educational circles and said he feels out of touch.

"I know there are problems that we didn't have," he said. "They're the result of the time, the economic crunch, declining enrollment, the struggle to bring about some quality in education."

"...The testing approach? I don't know. It may work. It may not. It seems a stick and you need some carrots to go with it. I suppose that overall, I'm encouraged."

—GUY MUNGER

### "Carolina Update"

W. Dallas Herring of Rose Hill has finally found time to pursue a lifelong interest — local history.

In fact, he has taken local history into his home, providing space for the library of the Duplin County Historical Society, along with microfilm and photocopying equipment to publish the society's research work.

Herring, who is 65, was on the state Board of Higher Education from 1956 to 1972. He was named to the state Board of Education in 1955 and became chairman in 1957, serving until 1977 when Gov. James B. Hunt