

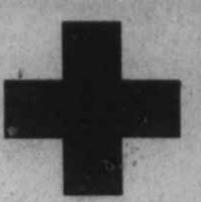


Kenansville Fire Department
March 4 9 til 4

Bloodmobile

Give what you can... when you can.
Help us... so that we may help others.

Warsaw Fire Department
March 5 10 til 4



Duplin Times

PROGRESS SENTINEL

VOL. XXXVI NO. 9 USPS 162-860 KENANSVILLE, NC 28349 MARCH 4, 1982 14 PAGES THIS WEEK 10 CENTS PLUS TAX



WINNERS in the NADA Roaster-Fryer Turkey Contest were Mr. and Mrs. A.F. Shaw of Route 1, Beulaville, and Joseph D. Carter, also of Beulaville. Mr. and Mrs. Shaw won second place and received a \$30



CORN WINNER - The Neuse Development Association 1981 corn contest was won by David Savage of Teachey. Savage's yield was 201.71 bushels of corn an acre. By

Cottle Wants To Avoid Tax Hike

"Duplin County cannot and does not intend to absorb any state or federal fund cuts passed down to the local level," County Manager Ralph Cottle said last week. Cottle said the forthcoming budget-setting period will be tough. The Duplin Board of Commissioners has agreed that a tax increase will be a last resort, he said. The tax rate has been 70 cents per \$100 assisted valuation for the last two fiscal years. The value of property in the county is assessed at \$639,878,644. Figured on a 95 percent collection level, the levy should bring in \$4,255,292 each year. Most of the remaining 5 percent will be collected within the next 10 years, Cottle said. The county budget for the current year is \$8,285,937. That includes state and federal funds in social services, health and mental health, programs primarily funded from state sources. Cottle warned that social services will be the first and most deeply affected by federal and state budget reductions. Services to the aged and health services may be drastically reduced if all the proposed federal reductions are approved. "There's been a lot of belt-tightening without any change in services to the public," Cottle said. "Any further cuts will have to come out of services. But every citizen looks to the county," he added. Cottle said if federal and state mandates are reduced in the same proportion as funding, the county can maintain most of its services. But if the mandates remain and the funds are cut, the county will have no choice but to cut services. "I personally do not like the trade-offs. I feel the federal government should take over all entitlement programs where it maintains any control." County and city governments are not equipped to take on the "new federalism" proposed by President Reagan without added taxing authority, Cottle emphasized. He noted the county's basic revenue source is the ad valorem property tax. As for the 1982-83 fiscal year budget, Cottle said officials won't know until about June 1 what the valuation figure will be from the summarized tax listings. The board plans to set the tax rate by June 7 to allow property owners to take full advantage of early-payment discounts in July and August. "My opinion is the (total assessed) valuation level will be about flat. The state's economy will have an effect on it," he said. The current county budget was established without a tax increase on the basis of a projected 3.7 percent valuation increase. The annual county budget process will begin Thursday when department heads will be furnished with budget and expenditure reports. Each department will turn in its "wish list" by March 29. The county board will hear department budget requests and explanations between April 13 and 21. The paring process will begin then, Cottle added.



THE NEUSE AREA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION poultry awards program was held Thursday night, Feb. 18 at King's Restaurant in Kinston. Shown above are Joel Coleman, Jimmy Brown, Jerry Rhodes, S. Ward Rouse, Lenwood Benson and Herman Benson. Coleman, Brown and Rhodes are with Carroll's Foods of Warsaw. Carroll's Foods contributed \$100



THE NADA AGRICULTURAL AWARDS program was held Thursday night at King's Restaurant in Kinston. Shown above are winners in the heavy turkey toms division. They are left to right, Mr. and Mrs. S. Ward Rouse of Route 2, Rose Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Lenwood Benson of Route 1, Kenansville, and Mr. and Mrs. Herman Benson, also of



TOM WALLACE of Route 1, Albertson, is first place winner in the NADA broiler poultry contest. Wallace received a check for \$50 and a trophy from Snodie Wilson, agricultural extension agent in Duplin, as first place winner. Feed conversion, livability and weight are taken from three of the flocks during a year to determine the winner. Wallace grows broilers with New Hope Feeds in Wayne County. Wallace is on the right.



THIRD PLACE WINNERS - Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Smith of Route 1, Pink Hill, were third place winners in the NADA broiler division. Third place winners received a \$20 cash award. The Neuse Area Development Association held its annual ag-awards program Thursday night in Kinston at King's Restaurant. There are nine counties in the NADA. The Smiths grow broilers with New Hope Feeds of Wayne County.

Rose Hill Lab Solves Puzzle Of Pelicans

The mystery of the dead pelicans is solved. They starved to death, state wildlife officer Tony Williams said. Between the beginning of the year and mid-February, about 20 pelicans died in the Wrightsville Beach area. At that time, Williams said he was puzzled by the deaths and believed it was caused by "something toxic." But bodies of dead birds examined at the state diagnostic laboratory at Rose Hill led to the starvation diagnosis, he said last week. Still, Williams repeated his earlier request that people not feed the birds. "Nature has a way of taking care of its own," he said. Except for a few pelicans that obviously died from other causes such as broken wings, all of the dead birds were "juveniles" with the same symptoms of lethargy, protruding breastbones and limp heads, he said. Such young pelicans are probably not as successful at finding food as older birds, he said. Why this happened now and why it is limited to the Wrightsville Beach area can be explained by a dramatic increase in the pelican population at the beach, Williams said. While the starvation problem has not surfaced in other areas of New Hanover County, a few similar cases have been found in the last few weeks in Onslow County and Oak Island in Brunswick County, he said. Pelicans can become almost comatose by hand-outs of food and then become "too lazy to go out and find something to eat," he said. They have a delicate digestive system that can be thrown off by spoiled food, he said. Fresh fish that a pelican catches itself are the best diet for the birds, he said. Recently, Williams said, he tried to examine a bird with a broken beak and 15 other pelicans "came running up with their mouths snapping." "If someone wasn't expecting it, that would have scared him to death," Williams said. **District 2 NCNA Meeting** District #2, North Carolina Nurses Association meeting will be held Tuesday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m. at Dr. Ngo's office next to Duplin General Hospital at Kenansville. Dr. Corazon Ngo, assisted by Edith Hill, R.N., will present the program on cardiac stress testing. All registered nurses are invited to attend.

Pinhook Volunteer Firemen Prepare Site

Thousands of supper plates will turn into the Pinhook Volunteer Fire Department's new home in a few days. Financed by dozens of benefit suppers, donations, turkey shoots, raffles, a \$300 monthly stipend from the county, and a loan, the young department began site preparation for its firehouse last week. Thursday, volunteers were grading, digging and otherwise putting finishing touches on the ground prior to having the cement floor poured next week. "We expect to have the cement poured Monday or Tuesday if the weather's right," Chief Joe Sholar said. "Some of us have been working here all week." Sholar and other workers estimated the department has received \$30,000 to \$40,000 worth of volunteer work. The prefabricated steel structure, its cement floor and other material will cost about \$30,000, Sholar said. The building will be 50 by 75 feet. Nearly \$20,000 has been obtained for the project through efforts of the volunteers and their families. "We made \$2,700 off one supper last month," Sholar said. The district serves an area within a four-mile radius of

the firehouse, which is located near the junction of N.C. 50 and State Road 1977 six miles south of Chinquapin in the southern part of the county. An estimated 1,200 people live in the district. It is one of the county's major poultry-growing areas with about 100 turkey and broiler houses within the district limits. The department held its organizational meeting in March 1981 with 75 present. It has 40 active members. Another 40 volunteers began taking a fire prevention and firefighting class at James Sprunt Technical Institute in Kenansville Thursday night. Officers besides Sholar are David Elston, assistant chief; Harry Sholar and R.C. James, captains; Mike Walker, secretary; and Carlton Lanier, treasurer. Douglas Judge of Kenansville was appointed as the new chairman of the Duplin County Board of Elections at the Democratic Executive Committee meeting Thursday, Feb. 25 in Kenansville. Judge will serve the remaining 15 months of the term of Claude Hepler of Wallace, who resigned to accept an appointment as a magistrate. Hepler has worked in the county and local elections for the past 32 years. Judge is director of the evening programs at James Sprunt Technical College and served as mayor of Kenansville from 1976-81. He has previously served four years on the Kenansville town board. Judge is a deacon in the Kenansville Baptist Church, vice-president of the Kenansville Area Chamber of Commerce, and past president of the Kenansville Jaycees. He is a former chairman of the Democratic Party in Kenansville Precinct and is a former member of the county Democratic executive committee.

Judge Appointed Duplin Elections Chairman