

Duplin Times

PROGRESS SENTINEL

VOL. XXXVI NO. 13 USPS 162-860 KENANSVILLE, NC 28349 APRIL 1, 1982 16 PAGES THIS WEEK 10 CENTS PLUS TAX

Sheriff Hopefuls Say Drugs Great Problem

Drugs and drug-related breaking and entering and larceny were called the greatest crime problems of Duplin County by sheriff's candidates.

The candidates spoke during a meet-the-candidates forum sponsored by the Kenansville Jaycees Thursday night in Kenansville.

Three of the four sheriff candidates participated. After each candidate's opening statement, the moderator, Woody Brinson of Kenansville, and panel members, Doc Brinson and William E. Craft of Kenansville and Carlton James of Beulaville, asked the same questions of each man.

About 100 county residents attended the forum. The participating candidates were Elwood Revelle of Warsaw, incumbent; George Garner of Kenansville, an instructor in law enforcement at James Sprunt Technical Institute; and David Underhill of Rhones Chapel, Duplin County sanitation superintendent. The absent candidate of Jimmy Hatcher of Chinquapin.

All three candidates answered "drugs" to the question of what is the major criminal problem in Duplin County.

Underhill said he would put more time on it and ask for outside help.

Revelle said drugs and breaking and entering were the most numerous crimes.

Drugs bring on breaking and entering and vandalism," Revelle added. He noted drug cases require much undercover work and require people to be willing to testify.



Elwood Revelle



George Garner



David Underhill

Garner also related breaking and entering to the need for drug money. He said he would appoint a person to deal with drugs and to go into the schools to inform students of drug evils.

In his opening statement Garner said Duplin deputies did not seem to have a professional attitude and did not follow up on cases after taking initial investigation reports. "I think it's poor leadership and bad management," he added.

Revelle said he is seeking his sixth term as sheriff. He was appointed a deputy in 1952. Revelle said seven crime watch programs have been established in the county and others are being organized. He noted any sheriff's department needs the support of the citizenry.

Underhill stressed the drug problem saying, "I

keep hearing that it's no use to arrest drug pushers because lawyers will just get them out. If elected I'll just keep on arresting them again, again and again. Drugs are a big school problem."

To the question of how to solve drug and alcohol problems in the schools, all three said better cooperation with the schools is essential. They agreed a problem exists.

Revelle said he doubted if the problem would be completely solved. He suggested having committees of students and faculty of the schools make recommendations to the sheriff's department. Underhill observed the primary problem is availability and said he would "go all out to nail the pushers."

Asked their opinion of having a countywide police

force, Garner and Underhill said they favored the idea. Revelle said he was against the idea.

On the question of reducing property crime, Garner said 24-hour patrols might help. Underhill said he would put deputies back in the community and mark the cars. Revelle said communities must get involved. Crime must be seen and reported for successful solutions.

On the question of dealing with budget cuts, Underhill, Garner and Revelle said that if the commissioners cut the sheriff's department budget, they would have to cut personnel. Revelle added that the loss of manpower would hurt law enforcement.

The other question dealt with qualifications for deputies.

Judge Bruce Blames Reagan Policies For Problems Of Defendant

A Superior Court judge has blamed the Reagan administration for a defendant's failure to find a job and make payments to the court under the conditions of his probation.

Judge Michael Bruce of Mount Olive, while presiding over a March term of Duplin County Superior Court in Kenansville last week, continued the probation of Jerry Willis, 26, of Wallace despite Willis' failure to make \$25 monthly payments on \$1,068 in fines, court costs and attorney's fees.

"It is not due to the failure of the defendant to make a good faith effort to obtain employment, but is likely due to the policies of the Republican Administration," Bruce said in his order. "He is therefore continued on probation."

During a later informal discussion with jurors called

for the term, Judge Bruce clarified his statement on a question from Betty Whaley of Beulaville.

"I did not mean to imply Reagan created unemployment, but some of his policies have helped it..." Bruce said. "There's a substantial amount of unemployed, unskilled young black men."

"You cannot put people in jail for not paying a court fine or a debt if they have honestly made an effort," he continued. "If they have fraudulently avoided payment, then you can put them in jail...People have lots of trouble getting jobs. They quit school. Then they are the last hired and first fired. Hard times show up in court before other places."

Mrs. Whaley said, "Blaming it on Reagan didn't seem quite right. There ought to be a work program for these people."

Willis, who quit school in the 10th-grade, was convicted of auto larceny in December 1980 and sentenced to no less than two or more than three years in jail. The sentence was suspended with five years' probation on condition he pay a fine of \$200, court costs of \$518 and attorney's fees of \$350, a total of \$1,068.

He was supposed to pay \$25 per month; he has paid \$10.

While awaiting trial, he was jailed for 90 days during which he lost his job.

Willis was brought before Judge James Llewellyn of Rocky Mount Dec. 18, 1981, by state probation officer Karen Albertson because of his failure to make payments. Llewellyn continued the probation and ordered Willis to make an effort to find a job. He ordered him brought back to court for review in February.

Sweet Potatoes Kill 15 Or More Cattle In Region

Sweet potatoes have killed at least 15 cattle in Columbus and New-Hanover counties, Dr. Wayne Koski, a veterinarian with the N.C. Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory in Rose Hill reported last week.

The cattle died after eating moldy sweet potatoes. Koski said the toxin poses no threat to people or to swine. It is caused by a fungus which causes brown rot on the sweet potatoes.

When cattle eat the fungus-infected potatoes, a fluid builds up in the animals' lungs that prevents them from breathing. The animals actually drown, Koski added. The medical term is pulmonary edema, or respiratory

distress. Koski said besides the fatal cases, several others have been reported. He noted Southeastern North Carolina — notably Sampson, Columbus, Johnston, Wayne and Duplin counties — is a major sweet potato-producing area.

Koski warned cattle owners planning to feed their animals sweet potatoes, which normally make an acceptable feed, to carefully inspect the potatoes for rot and blemishes. If any are found, the potatoes should be buried or otherwise disposed of so cattle cannot get them, he added.

"It takes very little of the fungus to sicken or kill cattle," he said. Rotting potatoes left over

from spring potato plant bedding should be disposed of so deer cannot get them, too, Koski said. He said the poison can kill deer as readily as cattle. "It's not common, but periodically we get reports of cattle and deer being killed by it," Koski said.

He said area veterinarians had several dead animals taken to the laboratory for diagnosis.

Livestock and poultry owners and veterinarians can bring diseased or dead animals to the laboratory for study and diagnosis. It is one of several area state laboratories that are satellites of the state laboratory in Raleigh. They are operated by the N.C. Department of Agriculture.



KENANSVILLE JAYCEES AWARD OUTSTANDING LEADERS - At the DSA Awards banquet last week, the Jaycees made the awards at the annual banquet to the

following: top insert, Amos Brinson, senior citizen; left to right, Eddie Hobbs, law officer; Lewis Howard, farmer; Steve Kilpatrick, fire fighter; and Jane Phillips, educator.

Hobbs Is Kenansville DSA Recipient

Eddie Hobbs, who was described as "Mr. Kenansville Jaycee" by presenter Woody Brinson, received the 1982 Distinguished Service Award during the Jaycee annual banquet held Wednesday night.

Hobbs, an employee of Carolina Telephone, was cited for his eight years' of service as a Jaycee and work in the Kenansville community. Hobbs is currently president and has led this year's chapter to No. 1 in the state.

"This is very well. I'll get to see it on my wall with my name on it, and I'll be proud of it," stated Hobbs. "You other fellows will have a chance to win this award. Attitude is the name of this and I'm extremely proud. I thank you for this award and the Kenansville Jaycees for their support," continued Hobbs. "On behalf of myself, my wife and family, thank you for this award."

Other awards were presented as follows? Fire-fighter - Steve Kilpatrick; Law Officer - Eddie Quinn, Kenansville Police Department; Farmer - Lewis Howard of Kenansville; Educator - Jane Phillips of Kenansville; and Senior



DSA WINNER - Eddie Hobbs, left, receives the Kenansville Jaycees Distinguished Service Award Wednesday night Woody Brinson presented the award to Hobbs

during the annual banquet. Hobbs was recognized for his service to the community as well as to the Jaycees.

Citizen - Amos Brinson of Kenansville.

Woody Brinson introduced Walter L. Shepherd, assistant to the dean, E.C.U. School of Medicine, who has, according to Brinson, been instrumental in the recruitment of doctors for Duplin County.

Eddie Hobbs, president of the Kenansville Jaycees, introduced Dr. W. E. Laupus, dean of the E.C.U. School of medicine as the evening's speaker.

"I don't think I've ever had such a unique introduction," opened Laupus. "It's a pleasure to be here with you and talk of my favorite

subject, E.C.U. School of Medicine and what we are trying to do for Duplin County.

"The School of Medicine started as a dream of Leo Jenkins and several other to get better health care for Eastern Carolina," continued Laupus.

Laupus traced the development of the school of medicine up to its present status.

"Dr. Jeff Margolis of Faison's Goshen Medical Center was one of 20 members of the medical school's first class," stated Laupus. "E.C.U. Medical School has grown from 27

students in 1977 to 52 this year and a projected 64 students next year."

"Senator Harold Hardison was one of our most outstanding persons in pushing for our medical school. Our first program, Family Medicine, is now producing physicians for this area," continued Laupus. "We are not finished in Duplin County. Walter is now involved in replacing a surgeon who left recently," Dr. Laupus concluded. "We have been extremely grateful for the grassroots support of people of Eastern North Carolina which has resulted in this fine regional medical center."

Community Theater Auditions April 4

The Duplin County Community Theater will hold auditions for its spring production on Sunday, April 4 at 2 p.m. in the auditorium of the old Kenansville Elementary school.

The spring production will be a Reader's Theater, and

will be directed by Jo Cameron Jones of Warsaw. A classical Reader's Theater is done with actors on stools with scripts in their hands. There is very little stage movement and major props and costumes are left to the

audience's imagination.

Acting parts are open to both males and females, from high school age to adult. Interested persons are also needed to do props, lighting, costuming and promotions. Those interested in

the technical aspects of theater are also asked to attend auditions.

The Reader's Theater will be staged May 6, 7 and 8. For further information, contact the Arts Council at 296-1922.

Company To Open Plant In Warsaw

A textile industry that eventually expects to employ nearly 100 workers will locate in Warsaw "immediately," John Pressley, general manager, said Wednesday.

The company, S & B Manufacturing Co., is a wholly owned subsidiary of Lorlee Inc. of Clinton. It will manufacture children's clothing.

It will begin operations in the former Quinn-McGowan Furniture Store on Front Street. Construction of its permanent plant, a \$250,000, 12,000-square foot building

on W.L. Hill Avenue in the northeastern part of Warsaw, will begin next week. The company obtained the site from the Warsaw Development Corp.

Initially, the firm will em-

ploy 25-35 people. After it moves into its permanent plant, it will employ 75-100 people. The company payroll is expected to exceed \$800,000 a year.

Pressley said applications

from experienced sewing machine operators are now being taken at the temporary site and at the N.C. Employment Security Commission office in Kenansville.

James Sprunt Seeks Funds

James Sprunt Technical College will ask the Duplin County Board of Commissioners for \$405,818 as the county's share of the school's 1982-83 budget.

The school trustees approved the request Thursday night. The board also agreed to ask the state department of community colleges for funds to establish a chemical technology program at the Kenansville school.

The two-year program, requiring 101 quarter hours of credit for completion, would train chemical technicians to work under chemists in industrial laboratories and in chemical industries.

Kindergarten Registration

The Duplin County public schools urge parents to register all children who will attend kindergarten for the school year 1982-82. The N.C. law and Duplin County Board of Education have established certain entry requirements.

It is necessary for you to comply with these requirements which are listed:

1. Immunizations: Diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough vaccine, polio vaccine, red measles (rubeola) and german measles (rubella), and mumps (recommended but not mandatory) Immunization must be completed prior to enrollment in the fall of 1982. Early registration will give time to have all requirements completed. Please bring IMMUNIZATION RECORD.

2. A BIRTH CERTIFICATE or other satisfactory evidence of date of birth is required. To meet age requirements, the child must be five years old on or before Oct. 16, 1982. Bring the birth certificate.

3. A PHYSICAL EXAMINATION including the TB skin is required. The physical examination should be completed and taken to the school on or before the opening day of school for 1982.

4. The kindergarten registration schedule for each school is from 8:30 a.m. through 4 p.m. The dates are as follows: Beulaville, April 21; Chinquapin, April 21; Kenansville, April 21; Rose Hill-Magnolia, April 21; B.F. Grady, April 22; North Duplin, April 22; Wallace, April 22; and Warsaw, April 22.

5. Kindergarten children presently enrolled will not attend school the day of Kindergarten Registration in their school.