

# Duplin Times

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## Suttles Appointed Kenansville Mayor

Don Suttles has been appointed mayor by the Town Board to succeed the late Carolyn M. Hall. Mrs. Hall died unexpectedly in May.

Commissioner Jimmy Johnson moved at the board's meeting last week that Suttles be named. Johnson's motion was seconded by Commissioner Ronnie Bostic.

Suttles ran second to Mrs. Hall in the November 1981 mayoral election. The term expires in 1985.

Suttles is employed by the Duplin County Sheriff's Department as a jailer. He has been a member of the Kenansville Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, from which he will resign to avoid holding two public service positions at the same time.

Commissioner William Fennell asked Suttles if he would have the necessary time for the post. Suttles said he would have time during the days because he works part of his schedule at night.

The board unanimously approved a resolution praising Mrs. Hall, the town's first woman mayor, and presented a copy to her husband, John Hall.

In other business, Glenn Thomas Braswell, 36, was appointed to the police force

effective Aug. 2. His starting salary will be just over \$10,000. Braswell now is a

security officer at Duplin General Hospital.



NEW MAYOR OF KENANSVILLE - Jimmy Johnson gives the oath of office to Don Suttles

## Two Duplin Schools Get New Principals

Two schools in Duplin County have new principals, both appointed by the Board of Education during a called meeting Thursday.

Harold M. Brewer was appointed principal of Wallace-Rose Hill High School and Tommy Benson will become principal of North Duplin Junior High.

Brewer succeeds Charles Slemenda, who resigned in June to become superintendent of the Madison-Moyden school system in Rockingham

County. Brewer will take over the position July 26.

Brewer has been principal of North Moore County High School in Robbins since 1977. A native of Laurinburg, he graduated from Pembroke State University and took advanced work at Appalachian State University. He received an education specialist degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Benson, who assumed the junior high post Monday, is a

Duplin County native. He graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and took advanced work at East Carolina University in Greenville.

Benson began teaching at North Edgecombe High School in Tarboro. He later taught at Phillips School in Battleboro. In 1974, he came to Warsaw High School as a language and social studies teacher.

He will succeed Johnny Williams, who was appointed principal of North Duplin High School earlier to succeed Jake Atkinson, who retired.

The board also named Dr. Austin Carter as community schools coordinator. He will retain his position as director of the three-tier vocational education program. Former coordinator Rick Sommers resigned at the end of the last school year.

## Warsaw To Apply For Street, Drainage Improvements

By Sharon Overton  
Staff Writer

Apparently most Warsaw citizens are leaving the decision up to the town board.

With only four people present Monday night to express their views on the community block grant application, the Warsaw commissioners have decided to leave housing rehabilitation out of the 1982 application and focus on drainage and street repairs.

The public hearing last week was the first of two which are required for submission of a block grant application Woody Brinson

of McDavid Assoc., in Kenansville, the firm handling Warsaw's application, said Monday's meeting was to gain citizen's input on whether or not the town should submit an application and, if so, what areas should be considered for funding.

Three Warsaw residents, Lester Jones of Jordan St., Kenneth Morrissey of College St. and Henry D. Smith of Rt. 1, told Brinson that they would like to see housing rehabilitation included in the application. Neale Turlington, director of the Warsaw Recreation Department, recommended that the town allocate some funds for

revitalizing a small park area near Lucy St.

After Brinson submitted his report to the town board which met after the public hearing, Commissioner Walter Foster moved to instruct the McDavid firm to apply to funds to work on drainage and street repair instead of housing rehabilitation. The target area is to include regions on the west side of town between Hill, Prospect and Bay streets. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Warsaw has received funding for community block grants for three of the past four years. In 1978, the town

received \$500,000 for water improvements. In 1980, over 40 homes on Highway 117 in Warsaw were marked for rehabilitation or demolition when the town was awarded a \$415 grant. Contracts are still being let at this time for the \$488,000 1981 block grant which includes 85 percent housing rehabilitation and 15 percent street and drainage repairs.

Citizens can get information on the 1982 block grant application at a second meeting on July 22. The finished application will be sent to the Department of Natural Resources and Community Development for consideration by July 30.

## Fish Kill in Southern Duplin County Is Believed To Be Natural

A fish kill reported in Cedar Branch and Maxwell Creek near Register in southern Duplin County last Tuesday appears to have been due to lack of dissolved oxygen in the water, according to Robert Jamieson of the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development at Wrightsville Beach.

About 100 fish, mostly catfish, eels and perch appeared to have died in the creek and branch between the Maxwell Creek bridges on N.C. 11 and State Road 1141 about six miles south of Kenansville. The branch meets the creek about a mile east of N.C. 11.

He said the investigation indicated the oxygen prob-

lem was caused by natural conditions at the time. Steve Long and Bob Cochrane of his department investigated the stream after State Wildlife Resources Commission biologist James Borawa reported the incident. Borawa said the kill probably occurred on Sunday or early Monday.

"They took water samples and found the amount of dissolved oxygen to be low," Jamieson said. "Our investigation showed no evidence of industrial discharge in the area," he added.

Samples are being checked for coliform bacteria, nutrients and biochemical oxygen demand, but results won't be available until next month, he added.

Jamieson and Borawa said high temperatures and a

shower can throw a "slug" of organic matter into these small streams, causing a sharp reduction in dissolved oxygen as it is absorbed by the rotting matter. Additional showers will improve the situation, they noted, by increasing the water flow in relation to the amount of organic matter.

Jamieson said the water condition improved later in the week with the numerous showers that fell between early in the week and Friday.

Borawa, who made a preliminary investigation before calling the NRCD people, said he found the stream flow "sluggish" and the water filled with algae. He said algae absorbs oxygen from the water at night although during the day they return

oxygen to the water.

Flow of water in the swamp streams in flat Duplin County is normally slow and the water becomes warm in summer. Borawa said the warm water can hold less oxygen than colder water.

Jamieson said fish kills are reported most often in July and August. Net breakage caused four fish kills in Carteret and New Hanover counties this month. The Department received a call about a fish kill in Columbus County but it was never located.

Jamieson urged anyone spotting a fish kill to call NRCD at 256-4161. The office is the former Babies Hospital building at Wrightsville Beach.

## Onslow Man Sentenced

Alton Earl Warren, 56, of Westwood Trailer Park in Jacksonville, was sentenced to six years in prison after being convicted of voluntary manslaughter Wednesday in Duplin County Superior

Court.

Warren was charged with killing Dorothy Emma Kilpatrick Peterson of Teachey between 7 and 8 p.m. Jan. 28 in her mobile home on Calico Bay Road between Wallace

and Teachey.

She was shot in the head, according to Duplin County Deputy Alfred Basden.

Judge Frank Brown of Tarboro presided. The maximum penalty for

the charge is 20 years.

Warren was jailed Jan. 29. He could be freed on parole in less than three years, Assistant District Attorney Dewey Hudson said.

## Tobacco Bill Contains No 'Overnight Answers' For Duplin Growers

By Sharon Overton  
Staff Writer

The amended tobacco bill which passed in the Senate last Wednesday will provide "no overnight answers" for Duplin tobacco farmers, according to agriculture authorities.

The No Net Cost Tobacco Program Act was approved in the House on June 21, backed strongly by North Carolina Congressmen Charlie Rose and Charles Whitley. Its major provisions include the sale of tobacco allotments, elimination of fall leasing, a 3-cent per pound assessment on market tobacco to establish a No Loss Fund and authorization for the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to adjust price support rates for grades in excess supply.

The bill was proposed this

session in an effort to maintain the ailing federal tobacco program by making it virtually cost-free to the taxpayer. David English, of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service in Kenansville, said the agricultural community here had "mixed feelings" about the bill.

"Most agreed that some action had to be taken to save the program," said English. "By and large, the farmers have been very cooperative with it."

Agricultural Extension Agent J. Michael Moore tells farmers not to look for "short term answers" to their "long term problems."

"There is no provision in the bill for a ceiling on lease rates," said Moore, "and nothing to alleviate high production costs. Although the bill will allow farmers to be closer to their actual

production rates, I don't think there will be a flood of people buying or selling poundage."

English believes that re-establishing quotas and allotments every five years will tend to make the tobacco more stable. The present quotas have not been changed since they were set over 20 years ago.

"Over 60 percent of the allotment holders in Duplin County don't actually grow tobacco; they lease their acreage," said English.

"The provision which separates allotments and poundage for sale purposes will tend to drive unactive holders out of the industry. I think we'll see a lot of sales from people who are too old to farm or who need the money to pay off debts. This will finally put allotments back into the hands of those actually growing tobacco."

Moore said he had heard speculation that the separation of land and poundage may have a detrimental effect on land values. Allotment holders might be unwilling to sell their shares for fear that their property will be worth less without them.

Both Moore and English agreed that the unstable nature of the tobacco program may prevent many farmers from borrowing money to purchase allotments. Likewise, financial institutions may be hesitant to lend for such purchases.

Although the bill still required the President's signature Monday morning, the ASCS has been instructed to begin signing up farmers for the 3-cent deduction agreement. Tobacco markets in eastern North Carolina should open as scheduled this Tuesday, July 27th.

## Warsaw Town Board Meets Citizen Proposes Historical Commission

By Sharon Overton  
Staff Writer

A Warsaw resident concerned over the recent loss of the Warsaw depot has proposed that the town establish a historical commission to help "save Warsaw's heritage."

Phyllis Ellenberg appeared before the town board last week saying that she represented several other citizens who "didn't want to see Warsaw's historical structures destroyed." She stated that several old homes in the town meet the requirements for listing in the historical register. According to Mrs. Ellenberg, homes over 40 years old are eligible for the register and owners can receive considerable tax breaks for their restoration.

Mrs. Ellenberg added that the commission could serve as an advisory body as well, encouraging residents to purchase old homes and make them "eye-pleasing" additions to the community.

Noting that a similar commission had failed in the past, Mayor Sam Godwin advised Mrs. Ellenberg to find a group of interested citizens and report back to the board at the August meeting.

J.H. Hines also appeared before the board asking that he be allowed to add 13 new lots to his mobile home park on Pinecrest Drive. He told the commissioners that the lots facing Pinecrest would be aesthetically pleasing, with larger lots and the units turned broadside.

The board voted on a motion by Commissioner Frank Steed to go along with the Planning Board's decision and allow Hines to make the additions.

The board later approved a request by Hines that water and sewer lines be hooked up

individually to each home. The town of Warsaw may soon be involved in expanding its own limits.

Commissioners heard a report by town attorney Garrett Ludlum Monday night on the procedures for annexing 32 tracts outside of the town including the Hill St. Extension and King's Court areas.

Ludlum advised the board that annexation could not be accomplished on such a large area of land by board action alone. He recommended taking the annexation in several steps, the first of which would be to bring in Warsaw Development by voluntary petition.

The town expects to add \$50,000 to the tax base through annexation of these areas which have a combined valuation of \$344,000.

Warsaw residents who raise small animals in cages or pens may be subject to stricter regulations soon.

After considering a complaint from a citizen about the smell of his neighbor's rabbit pen, the Warsaw Town Board asked Ludlum to draw up a new ordinance regulating pens in the city limits. The town presently has an ordinance on the books which forbids raising chickens, ponies, cows or hogs inside the city.

In further action, commissioners rejected a request by Beasley Broadcast Co. to allow them to assign the Warsaw franchise as collateral on a loan.

Beasley is currently installing cable television in the Warsaw area and is trying to obtain the loan to finance construction there. By allowing the franchise to be used as collateral, Warsaw's cable T.V. system could conceivably become the property of Branch Banking and Trust of Goldsboro if Beasley were to default.

Warsaw commissioners stated that they felt the arrangement would have been acceptable if the loan had been anticipated sooner.

Board members also voted to reappoint Alfred Herring

as finance officer and tax collector.

At the request of Police Chief R.P. Wood, the board went into executive session at 9:45 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

## Rose Hill Adopts 'World's Largest' Frying Pan

The town of Rose Hill became owner of what is called "the world's largest frying pan" last week on Tuesday night.

The huge pan, actually in eight sections joined together, has been the centerpiece of poultry promotions and jubilees since 1963.

Promised removal of the centerpiece to Kenansville for the first Duplin County agricultural fair in 60 years, prompted the action.

For several years the pan has rested under a gazebo on a lot adjacent to the Rose Manor shopping center south of Rose Hill. Previously it was located on the town park, the former Rose Hill school campus.

Tuesday night, Dennis Ramsey offered the pan to the town if it would provide a suitable location. The board of commissioners accepted the pan during its regular July meeting. The board plans to provide a permanent site for the pan in the town park beside U.S. 117.

Formal ownership of the pan has never been established. Ramsey's former company, Ramsey Feed Co., built the pan in 1963. Ramsey, now retired, told the board, "There's no deed or bill of sale on the pan, but I think I have as much to say about it as anyone. . . It needs to be property of the most stable group in town and the town governments appear to

be that. Initially employees of the company cooked chicken in the pan and used the pan in promoting both the broiler industry and the town. The company was a pioneer in development of the area broiler industry.

Ramsey explained, "I'm displeased with its leaving town. It's only left town once and that was to White Lake for a blueberry festival. At that time we were promoting our own Rose Hill Jubilee and poultry products."

He noted that the Rose Hill Jaycees had taken an interest in the pan and the poultry festival, the name of which was changed from Rose Hill Poultry Jubilee to the North Carolina Poultry Jubilee.

While saying he disliked the idea of the pan's being moved, he said to prevent the pan being taken to the county fair would hurt those people as the Jaycees had promised the Duplin Agribusiness Council, sponsor of the fair, use of the pan.

Current planning calls for combining this year's poultry festival with the county fair in October.

Ramsey said the Jaycees have been producing the jubilee in Rose Hill with other clubs.

The pan, 15 feet across, is made of 1/4-inch steel. It can fry 265 chickens at one time. The pan requires 140 gallons of cooking oil and eight sets of tobacco burners for heating.