

Duplin Times

PROGRESS SENTINEL

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HIRE THE HANDICAPPED WEEK - The Employment Security Commission and the Vocational Rehabilitation Department in Kenansville joined together in observance of Hire the Handicapped Week, Oct. 2-8. Pictured above, employees of Vocational Rehabilitation and the Em-

ployment Security Commission plan a project for Hire the Handicapped Week. Pictured above, left to right, Brenda McCullen, Gayle Saint-Amand, Sammie Southerland, Chris Bass and Dennis Kirby.

Bank Gives Wallace Town Library \$10,000 Gift

The president of Branch Banking & Trust Co last week celebrated the firm's 50th year in Wallace by donating \$10,000 to the town's library and by announcing plans to open a branch office in Wilmington next year.

Calling Wilmington a "key market which we have been carefully investigating for a number of years," L. Vincent Lowe Jr. told a group of Wallace Chamber of Commerce members a Wilmington office would be a "natural addition to our Duplin County service area."

Increasing industrial recruitment and the hoped-for Interstate 40 connector completed to Raleigh will make Wilmington an increas-

ingly important regional hub for financial and other services, Lowe said.

In announcing the move into the Wilmington market, Lowe indicated the bank plans to broaden its financial base and move away from its traditional emphasis on agricultural loans.

BB&T was established in 1872 and is the oldest North Carolina bank still in continuous operation. It opened a teller window in Wallace in 1933.

The bank, which has had two offices in Wallace since 1972, has become a major supplier of agricultural loans in the region. It carries a greater proportion of farm loans to total deposits than any other bank in the state.

"The economy here is at

something of a crossroads," Lowe said. "Industries, such as tobacco and textiles, which have served as pillars supporting the economic superstructure of the state, are facing a changes legislative and economic climate."

"We have supported the farmer and will continue to do so, but we must reduce our sole dependence on tobacco and textiles for our livelihood."

With a continued stress on education and better highways, though, Southeastern North Carolina will be an "ideal" region for other industries, Lowe said.

"One area which should be poised for a healthy dose of economic growth in the 1980s and '90s is Southeastern North Carolina,"

Lowe said.

Lowe also said other factors affecting the way BB&T operates are bank deregulation and shifting market forces. The result has been that the bank has expanded the number of financial services it offers.

Lowe, who began his career with BB&T in Wallace in 1963, gave a \$10,000 check to the Friends of the Library to establish a permanent endowment fund for the Thelma Dingsu Bryant Library.

The bank donated its original building in Wallace to the library 20 years ago. BB&T is the sixth largest bank in the state based on total assets of \$1.6 billion. It now operates 123 branch offices in 64 cities.

School Buses Needed For Handicapped

If the Duplin County school system agrees to purchase one bus for transportation of handicapped students, the state will provide the county with two buses for immediate use to alleviate a serious transportation problem for handicapped students.

Linda Day, director of exceptional children's programs for the county school system, told the Board of Education last week that due to a shortage of buses some handicapped children face almost six hours of busing each day.

She said most of the county's handicapped students ride buses. Twelve of these students are limited to wheelchairs, which require use of a special hydraulic lift at the bus door steps.

The board directed Superintendent L.S. Guy to "find" money to purchase one bus.

Guy said a bus ordered now would not be ready for use until spring. The county needs three additional buses for the handicapped which would cost an estimated \$78,000. At present, the county transports the handicapped students in five buses. One of these belongs to the state.

Ms. Day said eight of the handicapped students on bus No. 801, operating in the Rose Hill-Wallace area, face 1½-hour rides morning and evening. The bus must make several runs to move 26 handicapped students. One way on the route requires two hours, 50 minutes, she said and covers 66 miles. She said the same situation exists in the Chinquapin and Beulaville areas. A student riding the length of the route faces nearly six hours of bus riding per day.

The state has approved addition of three buses to transport handicapped students. A county makes the initial purchase of a bus, if the additional bus is approved by the state. The state provides replacement buses as the county-purchased vehicles wear out. Duplin County last used local funds to buy a new school bus in 1967.

The board also approved offering Algebra I to selected eighth grade students. It plans to offer calculus to selected seniors four years from now. To qualify, the students will have had to take the Algebra I course in the eighth grade and a mathematics course in each of their first three high school years. Calculus is unavailable at present in the four county high schools.

Associate Superintendent

Gary Sanderson said 140 students may take the eighth-grade algebra course.

Board Member Bill Richards said he had been concerned about the lack of advanced mathematics in the school curriculum.

Guy announced Duplin students averaged at or above the national norm on the California Achievement Tests with the exception of the ninth grade in reading.

In other business, the use of a portion of the Chinquapin I school for the Head Start program was approved by the board.

Sanderson also reported Carlton Grady, a Future Farmers of America member from East Duplin High School, will represent the state at the National Future Farmers of America convention this fall in Kansas City, Mo., as a state poultry production project winner.

Half Of Offices Still Open

Filing Ends Friday Noon

By Emily Killete

Filing continues to be slow for Duplin municipality's offices of mayor and commissioners. After two weeks more than half of the offices remain open.

A total of 35 seats are available in county municipalities and will be on the November 8 ballot. Filing for office began Sept. 16 and ends at noon tomorrow, Oct. 7.

Three seats as town mayor have candidates filing. Incumbent Ruby Ramsey has filed for re-election to the

office of mayor of Teachey. The incumbent Mayor Melvin Cording has filed for re-election to the office in Wallace, and Joe Daniels is the remaining candidate for the position of mayor of the town of Calypso. Candidates have not filed for the office of mayor in the towns of Faison, Magnolia and Greenevers.

The towns of Faison, Magnolia, Rose Hill, Greenevers, Kenansville and Teachey had no candidates filing for offices as commissioner after two weeks. The town of Beulaville has three open seats in the Nov. 8th

election, and H.J. Brown, Horace Lee Rhodes, Joe Edwards, incumbent Commissioner Franklin Boyette and Larry P. Bostic have filed. Candidates Shelby (Zack) Zachary and Jimmy S. Kennedy have filed for seats on the Warsaw town board.

The town of Warsaw will have three open seats for election of commissioners; candidates S.D. Davis, Eugene S. Emmer, Libby L. Boykin, M.J. Lambert Jr., and J.R. Turner have filed. Wallace has three candi-

dates filing for town commissioner seats. Three seats will be open on the Wallace town board in the November 8 election; filing as candidates are incumbents Charles Blanchard, G. Arnold Duncan and N.H. Carter.

According to Board of Elections Supervisor Carolyn Murphy, the Nov. 8 election will determine all winners by simple plurality and no run-offs will be held. And, she added, in order to be eligible to vote in the Nov. 8 elections, non-registered persons must be registered by Oct. 10.

Kenansville Medical Practice Celebrates 10 Years

Ten years of successful practice is something to share, said Dr. Corazon K. Ngo, M.D., the first woman and foreign doctor to establish a private medical practice in Duplin County.

Ngo and her staff plan an open house Friday, October 7, at her office in Kenansville. Refreshments and office tours will be held from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., October 7.

"They told me I would never make it," Dr. Corazon K. Ngo, M.D. of internal medicine, said. "But, that didn't scare me." However, Ngo admitted her practice might have failed without the promotion and business experience of her husband, Roy Simpson. "I was taught medicine and prepared to be a doctor, but they (medical school) do not teach business and how to set up a private practice."

"I think I have a good practice and all the doctors in the county have accepted me into their circle," Ngo added.

Ngo is a doctor of internal medicine which deals with diseases of adults. Heart disorders are included and Ngo's office is equipped with instruments to diagnose and monitor cardiac problems. Equipment like the tread mill gives cardiac patients time costs of a hospital stay, Ngo said, by performing tests in the office instead of at the hospital. Ngo's office in Kenansville is the only private practice within Duplin with the tread mill. Also, Ngo said, the internal medicine practice is equipped with the 24-hour ambulatory monitor used for de-

tecting irregular heart beats. She added, a piece of equipment never used in her office, but on stand-by, is the defibrillator — used to stimulate a heart beat after cardiac arrest. For detection of early lung disease, Ngo's office is equipped with a spirometer. The spirometer, along with the tread mill, ambulatory monitor, and defibrillator are pieces of equipment not found in other private medical practices in Duplin, Ngo said.

"The doctors in this area are easy to get along with," Ngo said. "And, Duplin General is well equipped for this kind (internal medicine) of practice." The staff at Ngo's office consists of Registered Nurse Edith Hill, office manager Alice Ross and medical assistant Janet Powell. Each of the three employees is an emergency medical technician, a precaution, Ngo said, for her patients if a medical emergency occurred when she was not in the office. Ngo is the medical director of Guardian Care in Kenansville, secretary/treasurer of the Duplin County Medical Society, secretary of the Duplin General medical staff and medical consultant for Guilford East of Kenansville.

She has two children, Shean, age 13 years, and Pat, 16; both are students at North Duplin. The family has a gospel singing group called the Gospel Travelers, and they have been performing for five years. Ngo sings soprano with the group and as a soloist. The Simpson family are members of West Duplin Free Will Baptist

Church of Warsaw. Ngo was educated at the Catholic University of Santo Thomas in Manila, Philippines. After completing medical school at Santo Thomas in 1965, Ngo came to the United States and interned one year at St. Francis Hospital in New York City. She served a two-year residency in internal medicine at Bronx Lebanon Hospital and another year as a resident of internal medicine at St.

Joseph primary in Louisville, Ky. The following 18 months, Ngo worked at Fairview General Hospital in Cleveland, Ohio, under a fellowship specializing in rheumatology and endocrinology. Leaving Ohio, Ngo came to the Veterans Administration Hospital at Fayetteville where she worked one year as senior staff physician. From Fayetteville, Ngo came to Duplin County and opened a private practice, October 7, 1973.

The Williams Refrigeration Co. freezer plant now under construction adjacent to the Swift & Co. turkey plant five miles west of Wallace is expected to open about Nov. 1, construction superintendent Thomas Troggio said last week.

Freezer equipment has been installed and pipe work is now being completed. The racks to hold as much as 17 million pounds of meat at a time are now being installed

in the freezer storage area. The flash freeze chambers have been installed, along with the huge blowers that will force air at 25 degrees (fahrenheit) below zero temperature through the racks of meat at a rate of 65 miles per hour. Troggio said the chill factor would likely be more than 100 degrees below zero. The flash freeze units will have the capacity to freeze 180,000 pounds of produce or meat to zero degrees in 48

hours.

The storage area temperature will be maintained at zero degrees, although the huge freezers can drop it to 10 degrees below zero. Cost of the 65,000 square foot building and equipment is estimated at \$3.7 million. It will be connected to the Swift plant by an enclosed, insulated hallway through which turkeys can be moved from the processor to the freezer.

Warsaw Man Charged In Marijuana Case

George McDonald Johnson Jr., 34, of Route 1, Box 79A, Warsaw, was arrested and charged by Duplin County sheriff's officers last Friday with trafficking in marijuana by possession and trafficking in marijuana by manufacturing.



Dr. William Thornton

Wallace Refrigeration Plant To Open In November

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marijuana field in a wooded area between Warsaw and Bowdens on Aug. 29. They destroyed 228 marijuana plants between 10 and 14 feet in height. The case has been under investigation since, officers said.

Thornton Day Set For October 15

About 74 people from the town of Faison traveled to NASA for the lift-off of the space shuttle Challenger carrying Faison native William Thornton into space for a five-day trip August 30. Today Faison citizens are inviting area folks to their town for the homecoming of astronaut William Thornton October 15.

The homecoming celebration will begin at 10:30 a.m., at the Faison Fire Station. Astronaut William Thornton will be greeted by North Carolina Governor Jim Hunt and Faison Mayor Francis McColman. Brief introductions are expected by Governor Hunt and Mayor McColman prior to Thornton's

public address. Following speech by Thornton will be a barbecue pork and chicken lunch served at noon with proceeds going to the Faison fire and rescue departments.

Thornton was among the five-man space shuttle crew of the Challenger. The five-day space trip is the eighth in a series of shuttle missions. The Challenger followed the first shuttle Columbia which flew five space missions. On this trip the Challenger deployed two satellites and provided the astronauts an opportunity to perform several in-orbit experiments; Thornton conducted tests on space sickness.

The Faison native was

educated as a physician at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and then joined the United States Air Force. Astronauts accompanying Thornton were Richard Trull, Dan Brandenstein, Dale Gardner and Guy Bluford. Thornton, at the age of 55 years, is the oldest astronaut to go into space. The Challenger landed at Edwards Air Force Base in California September 3.

As a young teen, Thornton opened a radio and television repair shop in Faison to help support his mother after the death of his father. And, folks in Faison still remember teasing Thornton with the nick-name "Genius."



CRAFT ENTRIES IN FAIR - The second annual Duplin Agribusiness Fair began Monday and many area citizens entered crafts, foods and agricultural products

Pictured above, entries are tagged for fair display and judging. All exhibits will be displayed daily until 10 p.m. through October 8.