

# Duplin Times

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## Duplin Jurors To Hear Bladen Triple Slaying Trial

The trial of Elton Ozell McLaughlin on murder charges opened Monday in Bladen County Superior Court in Elizabethtown.

A Duplin County jury was to hear the case. It was chosen because of publicity about the case in Bladen County.

McLaughlin is one of two men charged with killing James Worley, 50; his wife, Shelia, 21; and his stepdaughter, Psoma Wine Washington, 5. Eddie Carson Robinson, also charged with the murders, will be tried separately.

Mrs. Worley and her daughter were found dead April 30 in a car in

White's Creek in central Bladen County. They had been beaten to death. A month earlier, Worley's body had been found in his burning car on Secondary Road 1718 near Lisbon, also in central Bladen County. He had been shot to death. McLaughlin and Robinson were charged with first-degree murder May 9.

The jury was selected in Duplin County Superior Court in Kenansville and were to leave by bus from the courthouse at 7:45 a.m. Monday of this week.

As the jury selection closed Thursday, Judge Hamilton Hobgood rejected a defense claim that the jury

is racially imbalanced.

The defense argued that only six blacks appeared in the 40-member jury panel on the second day of selection. The defense also contended that only 24 percent of the first day's panel was black, while Duplin County's population is 34 percent black.

The jury has two white men, nine white women and one black woman. Alternate jurors are one white man and two white women. Both defendants are black.

The judge also rejected a motion to dismiss the jury because a court clerk had excused a potential juror.



## Emergency Teams Wait To Be Called To Hurricane Scene

Soon after Hurricane Diane moved inland near Wilmington, fire and rescue teams began arriving in Kenansville. Kenansville was designated as a staging area and some of the first emergency teams arrived at 4 a.m. from Duplin and surrounding counties. The teams

gathered until early Thursday morning when they were called to assist hurricane victims and relief officials. The emergency personnel moved from Duplin to Wilmington at 10:30 a.m. Pictured above are members of area fire and rescue teams.

## So Far, Region's Crops Have Survived Winds

Most of Southeastern North Carolina's agricultural land has so far escaped the full force of Hurricane Diana, although heavy rain has pelted the entire region. Fields are soggy and dirt roads barely passable.

Corn crops last Wednesday appeared little hurt by their brush with the storm's winds and rains.

D.J. Fussell of Rose Hill said the wind in that area had not been severe enough to damage the nearly ripe grape crop or the corn crop.

"Farmers have been mighty uneasy," he said.

Volunteer firefighters were manning fire stations throughout the area as they waited to see what the hurricane would do. Typical of these was the Turkey Creek Department near Stump Sound in southern Brunswick County.

Paul Parker, who manned the radio at the station Wednesday afternoon, said squad members had been on duty 26 hours.

"It's just wait and see and it looks like some more wait and see," Parker said. "But we'll be here until it goes away."

He said some of the people on the inland side of the Atlantic Intra-coastal Waterway moved out Tuesday night, but moved back Wednesday morning after nothing had happened.

Some firefighters drove rural roads to be sure these people would be able to leave again if the storm turned inland and threatened to flood low-lying areas.

Parker said the water level in Turkey Creek was about six to eight feet above normal.

David Paul, owner of Paul's Place on U.S. 117 in Pender County, said

the corn in that area was not badly hurt. A few trees had been blown over and branches torn off trees, he said.

J. Michael Moore, Duplin County tobacco extension agent, said the storm had not caused much crop damage in Duplin.

Many stores in southern Onslow County and eastern Duplin County were closed all day Wednesday. The Holly Ridge Town Hall sported a brand new set of boards for windows and doors.

The State Highway Patrol was using the Holly Ridge Fire and Rescue Squad building as its headquarters for the Topsail Island area. A detail of 25 troopers was keeping people from returning to the island Wednesday, said Lt. George Russ, normally assigned to the patrol's Fayetteville headquarters.

## Dr. Betty L. Siegel To Address JSTC Graduates

Over 200 graduates will be presented degrees, diplomas and certificates from 20 different curriculum areas, or high school equivalency certificates at James Sprunt Technical College's annual graduation Sunday, Sept. 23. The ceremonies will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the William Rand Kenan Memorial Amphitheatre in Kenansville. Parents, family members and friends are invited to attend.

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Betty L. Siegel, president of Kennesaw College in Marietta, Ga. Dr. Siegel, named president in 1981, is the first woman president in the University of Georgia system.

Before her appointment, she was dean of the school of education and psychology at Western Carolina University from 1976 to 1981, and dean of academic affairs for continuing education at the University of Florida from 1972 to 1976. She has also taught at Indiana University and at Lenoir Rhyne College.

Dr. Siegel received the PhD degree from Florida State University, the master's degree in education from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the B.A. degree from Wake Forest University.



Dr. Betty L. Siegel

As an educator, Dr. Siegel has received several awards for teaching excellence. She was the first recipient of the Woman of the Year award at the University of Florida in 1979, received a Distinguished

Service citation from Wake Forest University in 1982, and was named Educator of the Year for 1983 by Mortar Board, Georgia State University chapter.

In case of inclement weather, ceremonies will be moved to the Kenan Memorial Auditorium adjacent to the amphitheatre.

### Fall Registration For JSTC is September 26

Student registration for James Sprunt Technical College's fall quarter classes will be held Wednesday, Sept. 26 in the student lounge of the McGowan Building on the JSTC campus.

New students and returning students who have not re-registered and prepaid fees should register at this time. Registration house will be 9-11:30 a.m. and 1:15-3:30 p.m. for day students and 6-8 p.m. for evening students.

Pre-entrance testing for new students will be administered on registration day at 1-6 p.m. in Room 107 of the McGowan Building.

Combined tuition and activity fees for full-time in-state students are \$59 payable at registration. Classes will begin Thursday, Sept. 27.

## A Second Administrator Leaves Goshen This Year

Goshen Medical Center in Faison is to begin its second search this year for an administrator after the dismissal of Bob Hauck September 3 by the Board of Directors.

Hauck was hired six months ago after the resignation of former administrator, Jane Silver, in March.

The dismissal came at the end of Hauck's six-month probational period as administrator of Goshen Medical Center. The dismissal was unanimous among the nine Goshen directors present at the Sept. 3 meeting. The board consists of 12 directors.

Reasons for the dismissal are said to be conflicts between Hauck and the Goshen Medical Center staff members. Appointed by the directors, from the staff, to act as administrator is Elinor Ezzell, health educator at Goshen Medical Center.

## N.C. Supreme Court To Review Mount Olive Lawyer's Case

The N.C. Supreme Court will review the conviction of a former president-elect of the N.C. State Bar Association, who was disbarred and sentenced to four years in prison for embezzlement and false pretense. Donald Stephens, a special deputy

attorney general, requested the hearing by the high court because Mount Olive lawyer George M. Kornegay has continued to practice pending his appeal.

The N.C. Supreme Court hearing bypasses the N.C. Court of Appeals. Kornegay, who resigned as president-elect of the N.C. State Bar

after he was indicted, was found guilty Oct. 3 of obtaining money by false pretense and two counts of corporate malfeasance. The state said Kornegay has misused money in his client's trust accounts and placed legal fees earned by his law firm into his personal account.

## Wallace Discusses Traffic Lights

Traffic lights were in the spotlight at last week's Town Board meeting in Wallace.

The board decided Thursday to ask the state Department of Transportation to install a traffic light at U.S. 117 and the old Teachey Road near the north edge of town.

The board took no action on a

request to have the town's present traffic lights continue stop and go signals through the night. Now, the traffic lights are switched to blinking at 10:30 p.m. Police Chief Roscoe Rich said the number of accidents at night was no worse than during the day.

A public hearing on rezoning land next to the Jiffy Foods store on U.S.

117 from residential to commercial was to be held Monday in the town hall.

Major Pearsall, Yottie Teachey and David Ingram asked for help in getting rid of water standing on the back portion of their property. Board members said the town cannot do such work on private property.

## Coastal Expo And Field Day



### Displays And Demonstrations For Soil Conservation

The first Coastal Expo and Field Day was held Sept. 13 in Kenansville. The event was sponsored by the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development at the Kenan Auditorium. The Expo featured displays and demonstrations of equipment for drainage, water run-off, soil conservation and channel

maintenance. Also, featured on a field trip, was the local Fernie L. Boyette farm, just north of Kenansville. Boyette received national recognition early this year for soil conservation techniques on his farm. Pictured above are Expo exhibits in Kenansville Auditorium and surrounding grounds.

## Rain Dampens '84 Coastal Expo

Equipment to keep tillage to a minimum was featured in the '84 Coastal Expo and Field Day in Kenansville Thursday.

The display also included an extensive array of irrigation equipment and farm livestock waste-

handling equipment. The weather limited attendance to a few hundred people.