

Duplin Times

PROGRESS SENTINEL

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Home Burns

Early this past Wednesday morning, the fire alarms sounded in Warsaw and Magnolia, as Dorothy Moore's home was ablaze. Mrs. Moore and her two grandchildren were awakened in the night by the fire. They quickly got up and out of the house and ran to a neighbor to call the fire department, but by this time there was not much left to save. Mrs. Moore and the two children

got out of the house with only the clothes on their backs. Nothing else was saved. Later during the day, the fire caught up again, but it was decided to just let it burn. Everything was gone anyway except the cement walls. Neighbors and other good folks took clothing to the Moores and a few other meager items have been donated. They have set up housekeeping in an abandoned house nearby "until we can do better," said Mrs. Moore.

Students To Make Up Two Diana Vacation Days

Duplin County public school students who received two or more vacation days courtesy of Hurricane Diana will have to make up at least two of them.

The school administration's calendar committee will recommend possible make-up days at the next meeting of the Board of Education.

Superintendent L.S. Guy asked the school board last week to schedule make-up days once it receives the committee's recommendation.

The school calendar already has some make-up days built into it. Because it is so early in the school year, however, Guy said it may be best to make up the two lost class days from teacher work days or other vacation days. "We don't know what lies ahead," Guy said.

All schools in the county were closed Sept. 12 and 13. Schools opened two hours late Friday and, because of rising flood waters, were excused early.

East Duplin High School lost Friday as well as Sept. 12 and 13 because of flooding on area roads.

A request to excuse East Duplin from having to make up Friday will be sent to the N.C. Board of Education. School days lost because of a natural disaster may be excused by the state board, Guy said.

In other business, the board heard an explanation of the "open court" teaching system being tried as a pilot operation in the kindergarten and first-grade classes of Warsaw, North Duplin and Kenansville elementary schools from Thelma Allen, a supervisor.

She said the system is a way of teaching reading and writing by

blending those subjects with spelling, grammar and arithmetic. The alphabet is sounded out 20 minutes at a time four times a day.

Gary Sanderson, assistant superintendent, believes the state will adopt and finance the system in the next school year. The Duplin pilot program is sponsored and financed by the county system at a cost of about \$20,000 for supplies.

Sanderson reviewed some comparative scores from the California Achievement Tests, which students took in the last school year.

For the third-graders the norm was 3.7, which means third grade, seventh month. Duplin third-graders scored 3.7 in 1983 and 3.6 (third grade, sixth month norm) in 1984 in reading while the state average was 4.0 for both years. In mathematics they scored 4.0 in both years compared with a state average of 4.0 (fourth grade, first month norm) in 1983 and 4.2 in 1984.

In language, Duplin third-graders scored 4.3 for both years compared with state averages of 4.4 in 1983 and 4.6 in 1984. The summation of all three subjects showed Duplin students scoring 3.9 in both years compared with a state average of 4.1 in 1983 and 4.2 in 1984.

Duplin 10th-graders scored more than a year ahead of the 10.7 norm in language and mathematics, but below the norm for reading. The 10th-graders scored 10.1 in 1983 and 10.6 in 1984 in reading, 12.4 in 1983 and 12.9 in 1984 in language, and 11.1 in 1983 and 11.8 in 1984 mathematics. The combined average was 10.9 in 1983 and 11.3 in 1984.

New Voters Register To Mark Ballots In November 6th Election

In the November elections, there will be more than 2,700 new voters eligible to mark ballots in a Presidential race for their first time within Duplin County.

Prior to the primary elections in May, the Duplin Board of Elections reports 2,500 new voters registered. Since the primary, 200 new voters have signed up and the deadline to register and be an eligible participant in the November elections is October 8.

Currently, Duplin has 19,237 voters registered and 8,873 turned out to mark primary ballots in May. The run-off election that followed on June 5th had 5,481 voters turning out.

The local competition may have been more responsible for the new voter registration for the primary than other contests at the state and national level," Carolyn Murphy, supervisor of the Duplin Board of Elections, said. "There has been the get-out-the-vote effort going all along this year, and the county had two very close political contests in the Kenansville-Rose Hill district for county commissioner, and Board of Education representative." According to Murphy, the registration of new Duplin voters breaks down into almost equal numbers from both white and black races.

Within the past year, election registrars and judges have been

named in each of Duplin's five districts to assist with registration of new voters. In addition, special registration commissioners were appointed in each district to register voters locally. As usual, new voters may also register at the Duplin Board of Elections office in the courthouse in Kenansville.

November ballots will feature unopposed Duplin County commissioner and Board of Education elections, along with highly contested races for North Carolina Governor and U.S. Senator, and the United States Presidential office.

Local candidates unopposed on the November 6th ballot include, district one incumbent County Commission-

er William Costin, district five incumbent County Commissioner D.J. Fussell Sr., district one incumbent member of the Duplin Board of Education James F. Strickland, Amos Q (Doc) Brinson for the district five seat on the Duplin Board of Education, incumbent Register of Deeds Christine W. Williams, incumbent 10th district State House Representative Wendell H. Murphy, and incumbent fifth district State Senator Harold W. Hardison.

Absentee ballots for the Nov. 6 elections will be issued at the Duplin Board of Elections office in Kenansville through November 1 and the return deadline is 5 p.m. November 5.

Morehead Scholarship Nominees Named From James Kenan School

Last week Morehead Scholarship nominees were named at James Kenan High School and among the five are two of the youngest students ever named locally in the competition.

James Kenan nominees named include Warachal Faison, Becky Frederick and Anthony Earl Hall and 16-year-old seniors Wesley Casteen and Sonia Bell. The James Kenan students will be among other area high school seniors in competition to be named as Duplin Morehead Nominees and advance to the district level.

Morehead awards are made annually to approximately 70 high school seniors. The students are awarded \$6,500 each for their four years as an undergraduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The funds are intended to pay tuition, room, board, books and laundry during the school year and cover the cost of the student's participation in the summer enrichment program providing off-campus internships for Morehead Scholars.

Sonia Bell is the daughter of Mrs. Helen Bell of Warsaw and Samuel Bell of Mississippi. As a senior, Sonia is involved in the James Kenan

Monogram Club, Pet Club, FHJA, National Honor Society and serves as vice-president of the student council and as a varsity cheerleader. She is also a national semifinalist in the National Achievement Scholarship for Outstanding Negro Students. Sonia, like her classmate Wesley Casteen, has turned 16 years of age just prior to the beginning of her senior year at James Kenan; both students were advanced one grade early in their education.

Wesley Casteen is the son of John and Judy Casteen of Warsaw. Wesley is a member of the National Honor Society and has served as a marshal. He represented James



Warachal Faison

Becky Frederick is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gradie Frederick of Warsaw. Becky has received several academic awards while attending James Kenan High School and is a member of the tennis team. She serves as president of the National Honor Society and is a member of

the Pep Club. Becky was named in 1984 as a marshal and served during graduation ceremonies. And, she also attended Governor's School.



Anthony Hall

Anthony Earl Hall is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Rayburn Earl Hall of Magnolia. Anthony is a member of the high school Pep Club and serves his fellow students as a bus driver. He was among the students named as 1984 James Kenan marshals and Anthony competed in the East Carolina Math Contest.

Nominees for the Morehead Scholarships must have evidence of moral force of character and the capacity to lead and take an interest in their classmates. Nominees must have a proven scholastic ability and extra-curricular attainments, as well as a physical vigor as shown by participation in competitive sports. The students are nominated first by their high school scholarship committee and then interviewed by the county Morehead Selection Committee, where two nominees are chosen to advance to district interviews.

The most recent Morehead Scholar named from Duplin County was Camille Grady in 1984.



Wesley Casteen

Kenan last fall as a member of the Quiz Bowl team and was a Governor's School nominee. Wesley is also a member of the James Kenan varsity baseball team.

Warachal Faison is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter L. Faison of Warsaw. Warachal serves as vice-president of the James Kenan National Honor Society and is a member of the high school Drama Club, Pep Club, student council and band. She also serves as pianist for the St. Stephens A.M.E. Zion Church junior choir.



Becky Frederick

Watha Boy's Death Judged Accidental

A four-year-old Watha boy died in an accident about 5 p.m. Wednesday, said Chief Deputy Gene Kelly of the Pender County Sheriff's Department.

The boy, who was found by his mother, apparently died while playing on a gym set. He had become tangled in a rope that was tied to the crossbar of the set, Kelly said.

Kelly said the death has been

ruled an accident.

Brent McKinley Phillips, 4, died Wednesday. Funeral, Bible Baptist Church, Burgaw. Burial, Riverview Memorial Park, Watha.

Surviving: parents, Mr. and Mrs. Bart M. Phillips; brothers, Chad and Kurt Phillips, both of the home; maternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Gene Padgett of Watha; paternal grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Phillips of Ormand Beach, Fla.



Town Of Kenansville Receives Award

Charles Sharpe, president of the Kenansville Chamber of Commerce, is pictured, left, above, receiving the 1984 Community of Excellence award for the town from North Carolina Governor James Hunt. The annual Community of Excellence awards banquet was held recently at the Raleigh Civic Center.

Cording Joins Duplin Agribusiness

Melvin G. Cording of Wallace has joined the Duplin Agribusiness Council as director, representing the Fourth District. He replaces Jay Thomas who resigned.

Cording, who is presently retired, has spent his life promoting agriculture and has been very active in local government. He served as councilman and mayor of Wallace, director of the N.C. League of

Municipalities, and chairman of the Legislative League committee.

In the field of agriculture, he has served as executive secretary of the N.C. Cattleman's Club, vice-president of the National Association of Cattlemen, president of the Purebred Cattle Association, and has been featured by the Raleigh News and Observer as the "Tar Heel of the Week."



Sonia Bell