

Duplin Times

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Lodge Sponsors Spelling Bee

The St. John's Lodge in Kenansville sponsored a spelling bee at the Kenansville Elementary School. Winners and their parents and teachers were honored last week with a dinner at the Lodge. A presentation of a plaque, a dictionary and a certificate was made to the spelling bee winners by Lodge Master Charles Ingram. Pictured above, left to right, are, fourth grader Kenny Benson, son of Kenneth and Brenda Benson; Kenans-

ville Elementary School principal Wilbur Carr; fifth grader David Casey, son of Dennis and Sandie Casey; sixth grader Jerneal Pearsall, daughter of Diane Pearsall; and retired Kenansville Elementary School principal and St. John's Lodge treasurer, Z.W. Frazelle. The spelling bee is a renewed tradition of the St. John's Lodge, Ingram said. Today there are 115 members of the St. John's Lodge #13 in Kenansville.

Faison Board Approves Handicap Report

Faison town commissioners unanimously approved a handicap regulation compliance report during the December 5 meeting of the Board.

The report was compiled by town administrator Neil Mallory, Faison Mayor Frank McColman and board member Bill Igoe. During the November 7 public hearing on the compliance report, Board members were issued copies and a vote scheduled for the December meeting. No town citizens attended the public hearing.

Compliance with federal handicap

reported the paperwork should be completed on the perpetual care project at the Faison Cemetery by January 1. Currently, Faison Cemetery Trustee and town commissioner Jane Hollingsworth reported to the board, the project has passed its goal of \$30,000 needed to provide regulations by town facilities and employment practices is necessary in order to continue receiving revenue sharing funds. Non-structural changes to meet handicap regulations will begin immediately and structural changes to town buildings will be required by October of 1986.

Town attorney Garrett Ludlum

perpetual care for the cemetery.

Faison Mayor McColman declared December as Selective Service Registration month in Faison by signing a proclamation sent to the town by the federal agency.

A uniform fund was established for Town Public Works Director Fred Wheless. A fund of \$100 was set up until the end of the current budget and a recommendation accepted to consider \$200 for uniforms in the next fiscal year. The request was made by Wheless to several of the town commissioners due to the damage caused his clothes by chemicals at the waste water treatment plant.

Commissioners authorized the purchase of a new police car through state contract. The delivery date is to be late June. The new Ford will be paid for out of the 1985-86 budget.

The board granted McCoy Best permission to extend a water line beyond the city limits. The request was for a one-inch line to be run outside the city limits along Highway 403 to furnish water to a hog operation. Best agreed to furnish the line and labor to install the pipe if the town would install a meter.

A Christmas bonus was granted four Warsaw radio dispatchers and two Duplin County Deputies by the town board. The bonuses were \$50 each. Warsaw radio operators dispatch Faison calls free of charge during the year, and have in the past been granted Christmas bonuses by the Faison Commissioners.

Appear In County Schools

Folktellers Bring Out The Duplin Story-Teller

Folktellers Barbara Freeman and Connie Blake appeared in Duplin schools last week and Kenansville's Darlene Frederick listened attentively to learn skills useful in her goal to someday be a professional storyteller.

Darlene is a teacher's aide at Kenansville Elementary School and has been telling stories in Duplin schools since beginning her job five years ago.

"I got started five years ago," Darlene said. "I was in a workshop and I heard Jackie Torrans, who is a well-known storyteller; that's when I made up my mind I wanted to do that!"

"I went home that day and practiced," Darlene smiled. "My first audience was students at Kenansville Elementary and then I went to some of the other schools and now I've been nominated to go to Winston-Salem as a storyteller!"

"I just love to tell stories," Darlene laughed. "I can watch the expressions on the children's faces and know whether I'm doing a good job or not. And, I'm really looking forward to meeting with an adult audience — I've never worked with ages above the seventh grade, yet."

"But, adults I think would like ghost stories," Darlene continued. "Yes, I think I'd tell them ghost stories, and I've found even the older people like to hear the Uncle Remus tales, so, I'd throw in a couple of those, too."

"When I first started telling Uncle

Remus tales," Darlene said, "there seemed to be some conflict in me and my audience. But, the tales have to be put in perspective as a thing of the past — as a part of the Black heritage — a part to be proud of and not be ashamed of the dialect."

"I would welcome the opportunity to expand my story-telling to adult audiences and I want local civic or social groups to feel free to contact me," Darlene said. "I hope to become a professional storyteller in the future and I welcome any chance to tell stories." Darlene enjoys telling the stories of North Carolina ghosts from the book by Nancy Roberts, along with the tales from Uncle Remus. To the older audiences, she also includes stories written by Edgar Allan Poe.

The quest to become a story-teller has not always been a smooth journey, Darlene explained. Times came which made her want to give up, but through the encouragement of friends at Kenansville Elementary School, she continues to entertain and teach students through the use of stories.

"I especially think of Wanda Lanier, the librarian at Kenansville Elementary School, when I needed encouragement. She is always there encouraging me to go on, even though I'm alone in the quest to become a story-teller."

The professional folktellers appeared in four Duplin schools December 5 and 6. The native North Carolina folktellers, Barbara Freeman and Connie Blake, tell a

Kenansville Opens First Permanent Town Hall

Town Clerk Mary Ann Jenkins moves comfortably and happily in her new office.

"I can even look out and see the sun. Well, not today. It's rainy," she said last week on Wednesday.

Town records and files are gradually being settled into place in Kenansville's first permanent Town Hall. On Monday night of last week the Board of Commissioners held its first meeting in the new Town Hall.

Last month, after several months of negotiations, the town completed the purchase of the former Federal Land Bank building on Rutledge Street — N.C. 24 east. The town paid

\$73,000 for the building.

Formerly the town used a crowded space in the fire department building. The chore of moving records and files from the fire department is finished.

"It's wonderful to be over here," Mrs. Jenkins said. "I just didn't have any room to work before."

The building will house the clerk's office, police office, public works director's office and the Kenansville Chamber of Commerce.

Mrs. Jenkins has decorated a Christmas tree in the spacious lobby, which also is being used as the board meeting room.

Town offices had been in the fire

department since about 1971, said Woody Brinson, a former town official who now is Duplin County economic development director. For many years before that, town government operated from the back of Holmes' Jewelry Store.

"It feels wonderful to have our own town hall," Mayor Donald E. Suttles said. "It's something we've needed for a long time. We had run out of room over at the fire house. There was no place for filing cabinets or much of anything else."

Kenansville, the Duplin County seat, has a population of 931, according to the 1980 U.S. Census.

Three-Car Wreck Kills One Man, Injures Four

A 19-year-old Chinquapin man was killed in a three-vehicle accident at about 9:45 p.m. Thursday on N.C. 50, about 21 miles south of Kenansville, the State Highway Patrol reported.

James Darren Whaley, 19, died in the accident. His vehicle received about \$9,000 in damage. He was not wearing a seat belt, according to a report by Trooper C.D. Rogers.

Four other people were injured in the accident. Three were treated at Duplin General Hospital and re-

leased, a hospital spokeswoman said. Two of the three had been using seat belts, troopers said.

The fourth, a driver of one of the vehicles, Victor Lee Henderson of Route 2, Wallace, was admitted to the hospital Thursday night and released Friday afternoon, a spokeswoman said.

Henderson's vehicle was cut in half by the crash. Henderson was not wearing a seat belt. He has been charged with driving while impaired and driving while his license was

revoked, Rogers said.

The third vehicle received about \$1,500 in damage, the report said.

The wreck happened when Whaley's car was traveling at high speed behind a second speeding vehicle, both northbound on N.C. 50, Rogers said. The car in front of Whaley's crossed the center line and struck a car coming south, he said. The impact knocked the southbound vehicle into the path of Whaley's, which crossed a ditch and struck a tree, Rogers said.

Kenansville Names Streets For Resurfacing Priorities

Costs of resurfacing three streets will be determined so the Town of Kenansville's \$33,000 street allocation from state Powell Bill funds can be allocated.

The Town Board last week directed Steve Drew, town maintenance supervisor, to obtain cost figures.

In order, the board's priorities for resurfacing are Hill, Seminary and Duplin streets.

The board also approved a water and sewer contract involved in the satellite annexation of the County Squire and Vintage Inn property on N.C. 24 two miles west of Kenansville.

In the contract, the property owners agree to supply their own water and sewer service. The property is owned by a company formed by the Quinn Co. of Warsaw and Charles F. Cates & Sons Inc. of Faison. Quinn is a large wholesale food firm and Cates is a pickle company.

Truck Driver Charged In Fatal Accident

Norwood C. Chestnutt, 61, of Route 1, Warsaw, was killed in a truck-crash early Wednesday on N.C. 24 three miles east of Beulaville.

Trooper R.N. Johnson, the investigating officer, reported the logging truck, driven by Stephen James Humphrey, 27, of Route 1, Rich-

lands, pulled out of "a path" onto N.C. 24. As it came onto the highway it made a right turn. The eastbound car, driven by Chestnutt, struck the rear of the truck, became attached to it and was pulled 60 feet from the point of impact. Humphrey was uninjured.

The report said rain was falling at the time.

The Beulaville Rescue Squad carried Chestnutt of Duplin General Hospital in Kenansville where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

Johnson charged Humphrey with failing to yield the right-of-way and death by vehicle.

Beulaville Board Faced With Bad Water Samples

Beulaville Commissioners were faced with the failure of six out of 30 water tests from the town system. During the December 3 meeting, Mayor Wilbur Hussey said a chance exists that the system will be required to add chlorine to the water.

The board was instructed by the state to notify customers of the test failures of town water. Notification will be added to the next water billing.

The board is currently awaiting official notification by letter of the necessary action to correct water problems. According to Hussey, indications point toward the installation of a chlorination system. The cost of chlorination pumps at each well site is estimated at \$800. And, the system can be operated by present town employees.

The Commissioners unanimously approved a \$175 Christmas bonus for each town employee. The bonus is the same as awarded by the board last Christmas.

Fannie Guy of Beulaville was selected as the town tax lister. Guy was selected on a unanimous vote from the 13 applicants for the position.

The auction of surplus and used equipment by the town last month brought approximately \$700, Commissioner S.A. Blizzard reported to the board.

A report from the Beulaville town library informed the board of \$600 in donations. The funds were from the local Jaycee chapter and the Beulaville National Spinning Company. The Beulaville town library reported daily visitors of 11 to 43 people and 36 to 97 pieces on loan each day. The library is open each Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 1-5 p.m.

Alexander Judge was granted permission to dump sewage collected by his septic tank cleaning service into the town treatment system. No rates were set for the disposal of the sewage collected by Judge's business.

A contract with Stanley Miller as treatment plant operator was brought before the board and approved. The contract was for one year at a fee of \$6,200.

Town employees turned in descriptions of their job duties as requested during the November meeting of the board. The motion



Folktellers In Duplin Schools

Folktellers Barbara Freeman and Connie Regan Blake are pictured left to right above as they capture

attention of elementary school children in Wallace. The Folktellers visited four Duplin schools last Wednesday and Thursday.

Kenansville's Twelve Days Of Christmas Begins Friday