



Make A Run For The Arts

Nancy Jordan, treasurer, and Gary Sanderson, president, have made plans and helped launch the 1985 annual fund drive for the Duplin County Arts Council. With commitments to their individual communities and to the possibilities which the arts offer to all of Duplin County, Mrs. Jordan and Mr. Sanderson offer the following statements. . . "The types of activities that the Arts Council provides for the youngsters in our school system makes it worthwhile for me. I have seen that glow in so many young eyes, that my time on the council seems worth it all," Gary Sanderson, associate superintendent of schools, Duplin County, said. "I believe one is happier if they are well-rounded and can appreciate all aspects of life." "I enjoy observing beautiful things and listening to other ideas and opinions. That's why the Duplin County Arts Council is important to me," said Mrs. Nancy Jordan, chemistry teacher in the Wallace-Rose Hill High School. Pictured above are Nancy Jordan and Gary Sanderson.

**Rose Hill
Juggles Cash,
Improvements**

The town of Rose Hill will have to wait until April 4 to learn how its water system can be improved for \$665,345.

Floyd Adams of McDavid Associates, community development consultants of Kenansville, told the Town Board last week that he estimates the planned improvements on the west side of town at \$559,000.

He said an optional water project should cost about \$193,700. The optional project includes additional water lines, mostly along U.S. 117 east of the railroad tracks which run north and south through the town.

His combined estimate is \$752,700.

The town has \$665,345 from Community Development Block Grant funds to finance the project.

If bids exceed the amount of the grant, the projects will have to be cut. The budget for the project in the western part of town may not exceed \$542,790 and expenditure for the optional work may not exceed \$122,555, board members said.

Along with water lines, the project includes installing a 100,000-gallon elevated water tank and drilling a 250-gallon-a-minute well. The well and tank would be on a five-acre site that the board has voted to buy for \$11,000. The site is on the west side of town.

The present wells and storage tank are on the east side of town. The present system is considered inadequate to supply the west side of town in case of a fire.

In other business, Margaret

Cooper and Nancy Harrell said they want the former school lot, now used as a town park and recreation area, to be named "Town Square." They want to name the multipurpose building in the park the "Townhouse."

Commissioner Felton Rackley was appointed to assist the women in planning park improvements, including plantings to improve its appearance. They suggested planting some roses to go along with the town's name.

Greg Miller, zoning board chairman, said a zoning plan for the town is being developed by the zoning board and Melba Laney of the regional N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development office in Wilmington. "It is a slow process," he said.

When the plan is complete, he said the town should exercise its right to extend its zoning jurisdiction one mile outside the town. This will prevent undesirable development just outside the town limits, he said.

The board will begin screening eight applicants for public works director March 1.

The board voted to ask the state to reduce the speed limit on a stretch of U.S. 117 on the northern edge of town from 55 to 40 mph and to create a no-passing zone on the road in that area.

Several industries are in the area and there are numerous turnoffs from the highway. Police Chief Bobby Maready said several accidents have been reported in the vicinity.

Poultry Increases Agriculture Income

By Lois G. Britt

Duplin County's estimated gross agricultural income for 1984 totals \$260,328,807 as compared to \$230,452,336 for 1983. This increase came about primarily due to greater income from poultry. Agricultural Extension officials are quick to point out that the farmers experienced greater expenses in order to produce last year's crop. Labor, fuel, seed, fertilizer and all raw products were higher than ever known. So, even though total agricultural income was up, net income may in fact be down for individual farmers. However, the total amount of \$260,318,807 was put into circulation many times in the economy.

Estimated gross incomes were:

	1983	1984
Tobacco	\$32,103,482	\$ 33,736,621
Corn	17,325,000	12,044,500
Soybeans	4,950,000	4,998,000
Other Field		
Crops	2,558,500	2,004,800
Swine	30,090,020	49,864,460
Poultry	125,901,946	137,525,116
Horticulture	12,256,530	14,375,201
Beef & Dairy	1,027,326	1,244,628
Forestry	3,457,848	4,287,424
Honey	6,360	53,286
Horse		78,500
Total Sales	\$229,677,012	

	\$260,223,536
Govt. Payments	775,324
Total sale plus Govt. Payments	95,271
	230,452,336
	\$260,318,807

Poultry was the leading agricultural commodity in Duplin in 1984. The total income from poultry in 1984 was \$137,525,116. Broiler production in 1984 was 26,800,000 head which had a live value of \$37,144,800. This was an increase of \$191,675 over 1983 income. Turkey production in 1983 was valued at approximately \$80,475,268 which was \$6,574,577 more than the 1983 sales. Commercial eggs sold for \$2,481,150. Broiler hatching eggs and turkey hatching eggs were valued at \$15,906,000 in 1984.

Duplin tobacco growers harvested 8,463.68 acres in 1984 with an average yield of 2,235.46 pounds per acre. The value of tobacco was \$33,736,621. In 1983 Duplin County tobacco growers harvested 7,867.98 acres of flue-cured tobacco with an average yield of 1,937 pounds per acre which sold for \$32,103,482. In 1984 tobacco income was \$1,633,139 higher.

Duplin County farmers produced approximately 65,000 acres of corn in 1984 with an average yield estimated at 75 bushels per acre. This gave a

total production of 4,875,000 bushels. It is estimated that 4,275,000 bushels of corn were sold for \$12,055,500. This was a decrease in income from corn of \$5,269,500 from 1983 income.

The soybean crop of 40,000 acres produced an estimated yield of 21 bushels per acre for a total production of 840,000 bushels. The average price of soybeans was \$5.95 per bushel for a total value of \$4,998,000. This was an increase in income of \$48,000 over 1983 soybean income.

The total value of horticultural crops in 1984 was \$14,375,201 which was an increase of \$2,118,672 over 1983 income.

The income from pulpwood and saw timber was estimated at \$4,287,424 which was an increase of \$829,576.

Duplin County hog growers sold

474,700 head for \$49,864,460, which was an increase of \$19,774,440 over 1983 sales. Slaughter cattle sold for \$465,000. Total income from slaughter cattle, feeder cattle and dairy products was \$1,244,629.

Gross agricultural income has continued to increase as producers have utilized technology to produce good yields. The impact of over \$260 million in the economy cannot be discounted even though many farmers are experiencing less and less net income. Many related businesses can remain in business because of this flow of money.

Therefore, protection of the agricultural industry is of ultimate importance not only to farmers, but to the maintenance of related businesses, industries and in keeping the county's tax base healthy.

**Help Teenagers
Understand Taxes**

Since as far back as 1773 when colonists dumped chests of tea into Boston Harbor, Americans have taken a lively interest in issues of taxation.

"Tax Whys: Understanding Taxes," a new series of six 15-minute audiovisual (television) programs helps them understand those issues.

John S. Barrow, math teacher at James Kenan High School, plans to use the programs with his consumer math classes. Ms. Denise Garner, distributive education teacher, plans to use the programs in a home economics unit. Marvin Graham plans to use the programs with social

studies at E.E. Smith Jr. High. Librarians are taping the programs off air for teachers to use in regularly scheduled classes. The series is being broadcast on school TV through the facilities of the UNC Center of Public Television.

The programs deal with such issues as why there are taxes, how taxes influence behavior, how taxes affect different income groups and how the burden of a tax is sometimes shifted. This knowledge will be invaluable to students and will be especially useful in helping them understand the coming congressional debate on our system of taxation.

**Computer Users'
Group Being Formed**

A computer users' group for Duplin County is being organized. The first meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 27 at 7 p.m. at James Sprunt Technical College.

All personal computer owners and

users are urged to attend. Games, business programs and educational programs will be demonstrated. All ages are welcome to attend. For more information, call 293-3209 after 6 p.m.

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