



### Break Ground For Carolina Turkeys

The ground-breaking ceremony for the Carolina Turkeys plant to be constructed in rural Duplin County was held Monday. Present for the ceremony was a host of state and local dignitaries including North Carolina Governor James Martin and the Duplin County Commissioners. The plant will be built on a 700-acre tract of land on Secondary Road 1501 near Scotts Store, north of Kenansville. The construction of the plant is expected to cost \$18 million and will process turkeys from 800 to 1,000 people will be

employed when the plant goes into operation. Construction is expected to take about 14 months and begin later this month. Pictured above, left to right, Joyce Matthews, chairman of Carroll's Foods, Inc.; Governor James Martin, and President of Goldsboro Milling Co., Louis Maxwell. The plant is a joint project of Carroll's Foods of Warsaw and Goldsboro Milling Co. of Goldsboro.

## Ground Broken Monday For Duplin's Turkey Processing Plant

Construction of the world's largest turkey processing plant will begin in a few days, Louis Maxwell, president of Goldsboro Milling Co., said Monday following ground-breaking for the Carolina Turkeys plant about 15 miles north of Kenansville.

Goldsboro Milling Co. and Carroll's Foods of Warsaw jointly formed Carolina Turkeys to build and operate the \$18 million facility. Gov. Jim Martin, who spoke at the ceremony, said, "This can be the model to help farmers all across the state. It's a homegrown company."

"Yes, the old turkey has come a long way," the governor said. "Homemakers have discovered turkey is one of the best buys in the supermarket."

The governor noted that North Carolina is the No. 1 turkey produc-

ing state, with 30 million birds last year totaling \$50 million pounds of meat that brought \$287 million in farm receipts. He noted the state now will have the No. 1 turkey processing plant.

This plant will employ 500 contract turkey producing farmers in 10 counties and will employ more than 1,000 people in processing the birds, Martin said.

Martin used the occasion to promote his tax package, saying more must be done to make North Carolina competitive. "I propose elimination of the inventory tax," he said. The state can replace the money local governments will lose, Martin added.

He said it will require only one-fourth of the anticipated growth in the state's revenue over the next few

years to replace the inventory and intangibles taxes and the state's three-cent sales tax on food. The other three-fourths can be used for education or roads or other services.

In interviews later, the governor blamed the inventory tax, in particular, for losing industrial prospects to other states.

"We lost Brockway of Pennsylvania to Florida because of this tax," he said. Xerox and Kroger built in South Carolina instead of North Carolina because of the tax, Martin added.

North Carolina has the highest intangibles tax of any state, he added. "This discourages companies moving executives into the state."

Only four states have inventory taxes and two of those are eliminating them, he said.

Martin said he opposes a state lottery and legalization of parimutuel betting.

The governor joined officials of the companies and state legislators and other state officials in turning shovelfuls of dusty earth in the official groundbreaking on the edge of what has been a corn field.

About 300 Sampson, Duplin and Wayne County residents and officials and a large delegation of state officials joined in the ceremonies and a luncheon starring turkey dishes. State Sen. Harold Hardison introduced the speakers.

State Rep. Wendell Murphy participated. S. Thomas Rhodes, secretary of natural resources and community development; Howard Haworth, secretary of commerce; and Jim Graham, commissioner of agriculture, headed the state delegation.

Haworth said there is a tremendous opportunity for a food processing industry in the state.

William Sullivan, a Duplin County farmer and official of the Oak Ridge Community Club, where the luncheon was held, observed, "This is the greatest thing to happen to northern Duplin County."

Maxwell said construction time has been shortened: "We're thinking about a year now." Earlier estimates were that the plant would take nearly two years to build.

## 45 New U.S. Citizens Take Oath In Ceremony

Forty-five people from foreign shores, who didn't look the least bit tired, poor or homeless, huddled in the county courthouse in Kenansville Thursday. When they left two hours later, they breathed free as Americans.

Margaret Baxter, clerk of U.S. District Court in New Bern, led the group in swearing allegiance to the United States of America and promising to renounce obedience to foreign potentates.

Their accents spoke of their native countries: Vietnam, India, Guatemala, Uruguay, Afghanistan, Greece, Israel, Thailand, Haiti, Ghana and others.

Thursday they traveled to the heart of Duplin County from their new homes throughout the eastern half of North Carolina. A few dressed in native clothing — an Indian sari was seen here and there — but most wore suits, ties, sport shirts, dresses or pant suits.

They entered the courtroom as resident aliens but left carrying certificates of citizenship and clutching the Stars and Stripes. They left smiling. They left as Americans.

"I'm really proud of being a citizen," Staff Sgt. Erroll Watson of Camp Lejeune said after taking the oath. "It's like being reborn. I've never felt anything like it."

His Marine Corps uniform, Watson said, "is kind of stiff on me right now."

The naturalization service was the first time federal court in North Carolina had been convened outside a designated federal district courthouse, according to court officials.

Part of Duplin County's Law Day observance, the ceremony was moved to Kenansville in honor of two doctors and their families, said organizer Charles Ingram. The four members of the family of Dr. Mohamed "Moody" Ammar and Pramila Ramon, the wife of Dr. E.J. Raman, took the oath of allegiance.

Ammar, from Egypt, is Duplin's first obstetrician-gynecologist. Ammar, his wife, Magda, and their daughters, Gigi, 14, and Nadie, 10, moved to Kenansville three years ago from Mullins, S.C.

The Ramons moved to Kenansville 14 years ago. He is area director of the Duplin-Sampson Mental Health

and Mental Retardation Services. The Ramans are from India, and Raman was naturalized previously.

Asked how it feels to take the oath, Mrs. Ammar said, "Great. It's like a heavy load's been taken off our shoulders. It's nice to be part of the society you live in."

She said the family was not really losing Egypt as home. "People never cease to be what they were born," she said.

"I'm sure that all new citizens here today join me in saying 'I'm proud to be an American citizen,'" Mrs. Ammar said during the naturalization ceremony.

"I just want you folks to know that we are just as proud to have you as citizens as you are to become citizens of the United States," said U.S. Senior District Judge John D. Larkins Jr. of Trenton. Larkins and S. Gerald Arnold, associate justice of the N.C. Court of Appeals, spoke at the ceremony.

"Everyone in there has gone through a ton of paper work," said Warren Hepler, research assistant to U.S. Rep. Charles O. Whitley. "It's a long, tedious process." Whitley's office assisted some of the immigrants in getting help from the immigration service, said Hepler, a Wallace native.

The Van Nguyen, 35 of Washington, N.C., faced more than paper work in becoming a citizen.

Nguyen fled his village of Xa Phuoc Hai Tinh Phuoc Tuy aboard a fishing boat when the country fell to the communists 10 years ago. He reached Singapore, went to the Philippines and then to Guam and Arkansas. The Jarvis Memorial United Methodist Church in Greenville paid for his trip to North Carolina.

The congregation found the former radar technician a job as a television repairman in Ayden, Nguyen said.

"At first I don't speak English very well, so they pay me little," he said. He learned the language by "listening to the people talk. I hear and remember." He now has an auto body shop in Washington.

"I feel very good to be an American. I work hard, and I am always welcome," the new citizen said.



Maggie Ammar Receives American Citizenship

## Faison Citizens Respond In Town Revitalization Efforts

A group of about 30 citizens appeared before the Faison Town Board May 1 in an effort to join the Faison Revitalization Committee in a complete facelift for the city.

The citizens voiced complaints about pot holes, untended vacant lots, rodents in the downtown area, unauthorized parking and unleashed dogs. The majority of the group came in response to the Downtown property owners' and merchants' efforts to revitalize the business section of the town. Citizens requested the board's cooperation in giving the entire town a facelift through the enforcement of ordinances which would clean up Faison both downtown and in residential sections.

"The town board should be supportive of this group of people and

what they want to do," former Faison Commissioner Bill Hennessee of Cates Company said. He continued to encourage board members to request strict enforcement of ordinances which would help meet the requests of the citizens present. And, Hennessee pointed out Cates support of the revitalization efforts.

"We are concerned with the problems in our town," Ted Bailey, a local paint contractor told the board. "And, we would like to have our town known as a nice, clean place to live."

Board members agreed to begin immediate work on the complaints of the group. Commissioners emphasized the cost factor involved in some requests, such as street repair, and pointed out items like road resurfacing and grading would have to

be budgeted and completed in the upcoming fiscal year.

The annexation of Winnafred St. was approved by the board to become effective January 1, 1986. The annexation of the 500 ft. length of Winnafred St. includes four residential homes and lots.

Board members also voted to give town employees the option of deciding changes in health insurance policies which could result in cost increase. The town provides health/hospitalization insurance on five employees and if the group goes with a change to require a pre-admission review of hospital services, no cost increase will be charged. An eight percent increase will be charged if the pre-admission option is not adopted by the town employees.

## Rose Hill Couple Held On Theft Charges

With the help of an Elizabethtown businessman, the Bladen County Sheriff's Department arrested three people last week and charged them with conspiracy to commit felonious larceny, Bladen County detectives reported.

Hulon McCrummon, 29, of Oconee, Fla., was arrested on charges of felonious larceny and conspiracy to commit felonious larceny. Also arrested were Jimmy Register, 61, and his wife, Ruby Register, 63, both of Blanchard Road, Rose Hill, on charges of conspiracy to commit

felonious larceny. All three were being held Tuesday night last week in the Bladen County Jail. McCrummon was being held under a \$45,000 bond. The Registers were being held under \$10,000 bond each, deputies said.

Detective Steve Bunn of the Bladen County Sheriff's Department said, "The only way we can get the job done is if people help us out."

The businessman told detectives he was contacted Monday afternoon about purchasing a 1973 Dodge three

-axle diesel semi-tractor and car carrier loaded with two 1985 Ford Tempos, three 1984 Ford Escorts, a 1982 Ford Escort and 1983 Ford Clubwagon Van for \$4,000. The businessman notified authorities, who had him set up a time and place to buy the cars. After the deal was completed, the three were arrested later in Elizabethtown, Bunn said.

The vehicles were recovered. They belong to Andy Anderson, a used car dealer in Delray Beach, Fla., detectives said.



Oath Of American Citizenship Taken During Naturalization Service