



Ground Breaking

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held for Carolina Turkeys on Monday, May 6 at the plant site in Duplin County. Carolina Turkeys is a joint venture between Carroll's Foods of Warsaw and Goldsboro Milling Co. and is to be the world's largest turkey processing plant. Pictured (left to right) Sonny Faison, president of Carroll's Foods; Stan Draughon of Century 21 Draughon Agency; and Louis Maxwell, president of Goldsboro Milling Co., Inc. Century 21 Draughon Agency was instrumental in helping with the location of the plant site.

Ground Broken For 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 producing state, with 30 million birds last year totaling 550 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

If you've had your car for 25 years, it is officially an antique and qualifies for special license plates.

Sampson Native Heads Extension In South Eastern NC

Dr. James P. West says he has two major goals for the agricultural extension service in southeastern North Carolina.

One goal is to maintain a highly competent staff of extension agents in each county. The second goal is to make sure that local citizens have an opportunity to help plan and execute extension educational programs.

West is the new district chairman with administrative responsibilities for extension work in 17 counties, including Lenoir and Duplin.

"This is the largest extension district in the state in terms of agricultural income," West said. Gross farm income in the district was almost \$1.3 billion in 1984. Tobacco and poultry were worth more than \$300 million each, and income from hogs exceeded \$200 million.

Despite the current financial squeeze, West believes the district still has a lot of agricultural potential. "Our job is to deliver the educational programs in agricultural production, management and marketing that will help farmers to realize this potential," he said.

West also pointed out that the Extension Service is responsible for programs in home economics, 4-H, and community and rural development. "But we couldn't do any of this work without the strong support of such volunteer groups as advisory

councils, 4-H leaders, extension homemakers, and cooperating farmers and agribusinessmen," he said.

West assumed his new duties March 18, filling the vacancy left by the retirement of Ralph Sasser. He is a native of the district, graduating from Clear Run High School in Sampson County. His father, William Thaddeus West, farms in the Delway community of that county.

West has 20 years of extension experience. About 10 years were spent as an agent in Wayne, Harnett and Wake counties. The remaining time has been as a state 4-H specialist and district program leader. He has a degree in agricultural engineering from North Carolina A&T State University and two degrees in education from North

Carolina State University.

Dr. Paul Dew, assistant state extension director in charge of county operations, said West has "a rich background" for his new assignment. "He understands

extension work thoroughly both at the county and state levels," Dew added.

West has an office at NCSU but will spend most of his time traveling in the district.

For Fun In The

Ethel's Shoppe
126 N. Center St. Mount Olive 658-3118

Open House

The oil painting class of Callie Creel will have Open House to show paintings on Sunday, May 19 from 3-5 p.m. at Albertson Community Building (beside the post office). The public is invited to attend.

The Way You Pay For Telephone Service Is Changing.



In the past, under Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations, local telephone service has been priced below cost. Although the cost of connecting a customer to the local network is about \$26, customers on the average pay only about \$10 a month for local service.

The bulk of these remaining costs were paid by long distance customers through their long distance rates. Long distance rates were set at a higher level than the actual cost of providing service in order to subsidize local service. This subsidy from long distance was used to hold down the price of local service, keeping it affordable for almost everyone.

Today, Customers Have More Choices
In the absence of competition, this system of subsidies worked well. But, today, customers do have choices. They can drop-off or bypass the public network altogether, enjoy lower communication costs, and contribute very little or nothing toward the cost of providing local service.

This drop-off of large customers is particularly threatening because local service rates for customers who can't afford to build their own telephone systems will have to go up to cover the fixed costs of operating the network.

Telephone Costs = Telephone Services
So what needs to happen? Quite simply, prices for telephone services should be based on the costs of providing them.

We must move away from the practice of charging customers more for long distance telephone service in order to keep residential rates low, and move toward cost-based pricing in the telephone industry.

The Federal Communications Commission has a plan to restructure the current pricing system so that all customers will pay for most of their own telephone costs.

How Does The FCC's Plan Work?
The FCC's plan consists of "subscriber line charges," small monthly fees which help cover the actual costs of the lines and related facilities that connect a subscriber's telephone to the telephone company's switching equipment. With subscriber line charges, customers will pay closer attention to what it actually costs the phone company to connect and maintain their local telephone lines for local and long distance calling. It is important to understand that the subscriber line charge plan is just a restructuring of rates — not a rate increase for telephone companies. As the contribution from long distance is lowered, long distance rates will decrease.

Carolina Telephone Supports The FCC's Plan

We believe that this small addition to local phone rates will protect you from future dramatic rate increases. We want to make sure the phone remains affordable for everyone, and subscriber line charges are a step in the right direction.

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