



Wallace-Rose Hill roared in the second half Friday night to break James Kenan's three-game win streak in the long-time Duplin County rivalry, besting the Tigers 45-33. Coverage begins on 1C.



Duplin times

Vol. 76, Issue 36

Thursday, September 4, 2014

RALEIGH • CALYPSO • FAISON • KENANSVILLE • MAGNOLIA • RICHLANDS • ROSE HILL • TEACHEY • WALLACE • WARSAW & MORE



FANATIC FOOTBALL CONTEST IS BACK! Play this week & win cash prize! See pages 4C-5C.



Duplin Times photo/Trevor Normile

Carolyn Fryberger of the Kenan Institute's Center for N.C. Strategic Economic Growth presented the findings of her study on waste digesters to business owners, members of government and others last month at the Duplin County Airport in Kenansville.

Waste overload to energy mother-lode

Waste digesters feasibility study presented by Kenan Institute

Trevor Normile Staff writer
KENANSVILLE — Surely, a large amount of methane is produced by all the livestock in Duplin County. But is it enough to harvest?

According to Carolyn Fryberger of the Kenan Institute's Center for N.C. Strategic Economic Growth, it very well could be.

Fryberger presented her findings to local government and business owners last Wednesday at the Duplin County

Airport near Kenansville. Her study investigated the feasibility of "biogas" production in the county, using waste as the raw material.

"In Duplin County specifically, there's great potential here with all the hogs... If all that waste were sufficiently captured and transformed into biogas, it would power about 10,000 homes a year ..."

—Carolyn Fryberger, Kenan Institute

In theory, it's a relatively simple process. The material, usually animal waste, is fed through a large machine called a "digester," which separates valuable methane gas from the waste. The waste, which is now less odor-

ous and caustic, is then sent back to farms to be used as fertilizer.

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Dixon to seek House leadership post

Two-term state representative wants House Majority Leader job

Todd Wetherington News Editor

RALEIGH — One of Duplin County's local representatives, Jimmy Dixon (R-Dist.4) of Warsaw, announced last week that he would be seeking the position of House majority leader, a role that would provide Dixon with greater influence in the state

General Assembly.

In a letter sent to caucus members last week announcing his decision, Dixon remarked, "The Republican Leader is critically important because that person, by our Plan of Organization, presides over the Caucus and is our official spokesman. "We need a disciplined

Caucus focused on efficient use of our time. We need to consistently make decisions with input from all members of the Caucus."

The majority leader is elected by members of the political party holding

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N.C. House District 4 Representative Jimmy Dixon



Crunch!

A Duplin County school bus was involved in an accident with a log truck last week as it attempted to make a left hand turn on N.C. 41 near the Duplin-Jones county line. One student and the bus driver were transported to the hospital with minor injuries.

Bus, log truck involved in accident

Todd Wetherington News Editor

POTTERS HILL — A Duplin County school bus was involved in an accident with a log truck just across the Jones County line as it was turning around during the early morning hours of Tuesday, Aug. 27.

According to information provided by Duplin County Schools (DCS) and the state Highway Patrol, both vehicles were travelling east on N.C. 41 at approximately

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At long last!

Construction to start in the next 30 days for Diesel Mechanics facility

Jacqueline Hough Staff writer

KENANSVILLE — With the bid approved and contracts signed, construction by Group 3 Management should start in the next 30 days for the James Sprunt Community College Diesel Mechanic facility.

Diesel School Mechanic Instructor Jonathan Merritt said officials anticipate construction being completed in eight months, with classes to start in the fall of 2015.

"I believe once they get the equipment out there and break ground, things will move fairly quickly," he said.

The Diesel and Heavy Equipment Technology Program is designed to not only fill the gap for employers who cannot find qualified employees for available jobs but to also help upgrade the skill sets of the local workforce.

Merritt was hired in May to help lead the program. This came after the unexpected death of diesel engine



Jonathan Merritt

repair class instructor Roger Brock last spring, which left the position vacant and delayed the development of the new program's curriculum.

A native of Roanoke Rapids, Merritt was a feet maintenance supervisor at the Garysburg facility of G&P Trucking Company.

He is a graduate of the Nashville

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ACA mandate could cause changes for JSCC temp workers

Jacqueline Hough Staff writer

KENANSVILLE — An Affordable Care Act (ACA) mandate could mean changes for some of James Sprunt Community College's temporary employees.

During an update at a recent board meeting, Jimmy Tate, interim vice president of College Advancement, said the college will have to begin implementation of the new mandate this month and have a look back period in October.

Under ACA, employees who work 130 hours a month

or more will have to be offered health insurance by employers who employ 50 or more people.

The mandate will affect full and part-time workers.

"At James Sprunt, due to the size of our institution, it's been more economical for us to hire people on temporary contracts," he said. "Traditionally, we didn't have to offer benefits or insurance."

College officials will continue to monitor this issue, Tate said.

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49th Farmer's Day celebration is Saturday

Trevor Normile Staff writer
RICHLANDS — The 49th annual Richlands Farmer's Day celebration, which seeks to celebrate the

community's farming history and raise money for agriculture-related scholarships, is planned for Saturday.

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Duplin Times photo/Trevor Normile

Attendees from a past Richlands Farmer's Day competed in a sack race held near the stage. This year's event will feature a new attraction: a barbecue pork cook-off.

IN TODAY'S EDITION:
Duplin County Schools
2014 Report to the Community
A unified approach to academic excellence
Duplin County Schools' 2014 Report to the Community updates the public on what's happening in our school system.

