

Along the Way

By Emily Killeotte

Citizens from Duplin County have played important roles in the settling of this country. During the Revolutionary War, Duplin men rose to defend their homes in the Colonial Militia and fought bravely in the Battle of Rockfish.

Many times the Battle of Rockfish has been referred to as a skirmish in which one British soldier lost his life. While the battle does not compare in size and length to the nearby conflict of Moore's Creek, the Duplin bout was fought for a purpose.

The Battle of Rockfish was planned to stop or slow the advancement of the British. Major James H. Craig, Major Craig had taken possession of Wilmington, then a town of about 1,000 citizens, during early 1781. During Craig's stay in Wilmington and Rutherford Mills east of Burgaw, his troops carried on a campaign of plunder and destruction. Craig's troops, with the assistance of locals loyal to Britain, issued a proclamation declaring all colonists who failed to enlist under the crown by the first day of August would be destroyed and their property taken.

In reply to the proclamation, Duplin's General James Kenan gathered all his forces at Rockfish bridge on the old Wilmington road near the present town of Wallace to prevent the entry of British forces into the county. Joining Kenan and the local militia were 150 men under the leadership of Major Griffen, making a total of about 400 men. The proclamation expired the next day, August 1, 1781, Craig's troops left Wilmington. August 2, Craig's main force, well-equipped with ammunition, artillery and cavalry, met the main force of Craig's troops and found the British cavalry advancing upon their rear. The cavalry was composed of 60 horsemen and two companies of artillery, led by Captain Gordon. Surrounded by British arms, General Kenan led the colonial troops in retreat. About 10 of the men were wounded and taken prisoner by the British during the retreat.

Craig proceeded on his

march through Duplin. The British troops spent several days in our county before leaving on course to New Bern.

The Battle of Rockfish was recounted by former register of Deeds A.T. Outlaw in an article published in a May 1936 issue of the DUPLIN TIMES.

Duplin School Menus

Jan. 24-28

Breakfast

Mon. - orange muffin, cereal, juice, milk
Tue. - cheese toast, cereal, milk
Wed. - sausage biscuit, cereal, juice, milk
Thur. - bran muffin, cereal, juice, milk
Fri. - honey bun, cereal, juice, milk

Lunch

Mon. - pizza or chicken charms with honey biscuit, corn or shoestring potatoes, apple or juice
Tue. - stew beef over rice with roll or roast beef sandwich, tomatoes or fried okra, cherry jubilee or pears, chocolate birthday cake
Wed. - hamburger or turkey pot pie with biscuit topping, potatoes rounds or beets, pineapple or fruit cocktail
Thur. ravioli with roll or rib sandwich, green beans or yams, peaches or orange slush
Fri. - surfburger with tartar sauce or pork steak with rice and roll, coleslaw or turnips; pear salad

Lunch is served with milk. Substitutions may occur. Breakfast is served only in schools with the program. Additional items are available for purchase.

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. and Mrs. Terry Futrell of Pink Hill announce the birth of their son, Nicholas Earl, on December 28, 1982 at Lenoir Memorial Hospital in Kinston.

Nicholas' grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Smith of Pink Hill and Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Futrell of Richlands.

Horticulture Specialist Joins Duplin Agricultural Extension Service

County farmers will be greeted by a new member of the Duplin Agricultural Extension Service this season. Phillip Denlinger, a native of Dayton, Ohio, is Duplin's new horticulture specialist.

"The potential for vegetable and fruit production is good in Duplin County," said Denlinger. "The Faison Produce Market and Cates are near to buy the crops."

During the coming season, Denlinger plans to establish several Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plots throughout Duplin's fruit

and vegetable fields. The IPM plots will be scouted for insects to determine the best time to spray insecticides. The information, Denlinger explained, may cut down on the number of times a farmer sprays his crop and yield a better harvest.

"There is more risk with produce crops but there is good potential for the vegetable crops in Duplin," Denlinger said. "Corn and soybean crops can be stored, but there is no way of storing vegetables until the market price improves." Test programs like IPM can help make produce crops more

profitable, cutting insecticide costs and improving yields.

As horticulture specialist, Denlinger will work with blueberry, grape, tomato, cucumber and pepper crops, and home landscaping projects and advisor to plant nursery businesses. Another crop Denlinger hopes to acquaint Duplin farmers with is cabbage. Cabbage is one of the main crops in Denlinger's home state of Ohio. Ohio's main crops are cabbage, tomatoes and beans.

Denlinger began work at the Duplin AES Jan. 4. He has been living and working

in Bladen County since September 1982. The Dayton native is a graduate of Purdue University in Indiana with a B.S. in horticulture and employment experience as a manager of an Ohio fruit and vegetable farm.

"I hope the Duplin farmers will feel free to call our office for help with their 1983 crops," Denlinger said. "The Extension office has an unlimited amount of information available. If we don't have the answers here, a telephone call to North Carolina State University will put us in touch with a specialist."

Carltons Attend Farm Tobacco Seminar

"Tobacco growers must fight tooth and nail politically to get the public aware of the whole tobacco program."

This is one conclusion reached by a Duplin County couple, Johnny and Connie Carlton, after completing the executive development seminar for tobacco farmers and tobacco farm women.

The Carltons, of Route 1, Warsaw, were among 64 tobacco farmers from across the state attending the seminar. It was conducted by the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service with a grant from R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. Participants attended four days of classes at N.C. State University and made a two-day visit to R.J. Reynolds World Headquarters in Winston-Salem.

Dr. Chester D. Black, director of the AES, said the annual seminar is for innovative tobacco farmers who want to broaden their knowledge of tobacco production and marketing. "It is one of the first statewide educational programs to recognize the role women play in modern agriculture," Black added.

Edward A. Horrigan Jr., chairman of Reynolds, told the participants that, "Tobacco farmers must arm themselves through education, new production techniques and a strong com-

mitment to protect the future of America's \$60 billion tobacco industry."

The Carltons ranked cigarette manufacturing plants, agricultural law, farm records systems and computers among the most interesting topics at the seminar. In fact, the Carltons admit they are considering purchasing a small computer to help with recordkeeping.

The Carltons farm 870 acres of corn, wheat and soybeans and 60 acres of tobacco in partnership with Carlton's father and brother.

The Carltons are members of Johnson Baptist Church near Warsaw and have three children: Michael, 13; Ron, 10; and Leigh Ann, 8.

Carolina Telephone's Taxes Reflect Large Investment

According to the Duplin County tax collector's office, Carolina Telephone's tax check makes it one of the largest taxpayers in Duplin County.

W. S. Richardson, the district commercial and marketing manager in Clinton, said that the company's total tax payment within Duplin County, including all city taxes, is \$109,805.50.

Onslow Annual Quilt Show

The Onslow County Museum will sponsor its annual quilt show in cooperation with the Jacksonville Mall on Jan. 23 from 1-5 p.m. Registration for quilts to be shown will be held from 10 a.m. until the show opens. Entries will be judged on craftsmanship, design, quality of material and execution (choice of materials and color balance). Categories include antique, new handmade, new machine-made and miscellaneous. There is no charge for

entering. Entrants wishing to pre-register may pick up forms at the Onslow County Public Library, Marie's Busy Hands on Western Boulevard, The Creative Nook on New Bridge Street or at the Museum in Richlands. Forms should be returned by mail to the Museum.

In addition, there will be lecturers and demonstrators on hand to answer questions and illustrate the art of quilting.

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Facts About The BIBLE BY JOHN LEHTI

HIS WATCHMEN ARE BLIND!

"HIS WATCHMEN ARE BLIND, THEY ARE ALL IGNORANT, THEY ARE ALL DUMB DOGS, THEY CANNOT BARK, SLEEPING, LYING DOWN, LOVING TO SLUMBER." (ISA. 56:10) ISAIAH WROTE THIS ADMONITION TO WARN THE PEOPLE THAT THEY MUST BE VIGILANT IN DEALING WITH THEIR POWERFUL NEIGHBORS. THIS PROPHET KNEW IT WAS NOT THE STRENGTH OF ALLIES BUT RATHER THE SPIRIT OF GOD THAT WOULD KEEP THEM FROM ALL HARM. SO AS A WATCHFUL SENTRY IN THE NIGHT GUARDS A SLEEPING ARMY, THEY HAD TO BE ALERT TO THE DANGER OF A CRAFTY ENEMY. COUNTLESS BATTLES HAVE BEEN LOST, NOT THROUGH LACK OF MANPOWER OR ARMAMENT BUT, BECAUSE THE WATCHMAN WAS ASLEEP! ISAIAH KNEW THIS BUT, UNFORTUNATELY, THE KING AND HIS ADVISORS DID NOT SEEK GOD'S GUIDANCE.



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