

DUPLIN SPRING WATER in THE LIBERTY CART. Phenius Pickett, peddler and historian and lead actor in the outdoor drama, is pictured above at the Beulaville Agricultural Society's Fair. THE LIBERTY CART opened its eighth season at the William R. Kenan Memorial

Amphitheatre in Kenansville July 8th. The drama will be presented each Thursday, Saturday and Sunday at 8:15 through August 21. The professional cast of the outdoor drama will stage GODSPELL each Wednesday and Friday evenings through August 19 beginning nights at 8:15.



ATTENDED 4-H ELECTRIC CONGRESS - Duplin County 4-H members (second from left) Roxanne Pearsall of Wallace, and Charles Denning of Faison, were delegates to the State 4-H Electric Congress at Chowan College in Murfreesboro July 11-13. Lucy B. Pearsall, 4-H leader and Roxane's mother (left) and Nancy Pugh, Carolina Power

and Light Company customer service representative, (right) accompanied the delegates. The 4-H'ers were selected for achievement in their electric projects. CP&L sponsored their trip. The congress was conducted by the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service.

School Cutbacks

The new budget of \$16,938,611 was approved by the Duplin County Board of Education last week. The 1982-83 budget totaled \$17,845,405.

The system had an average daily attendance of 7,904 students during the 1982-83 school year.

Of the total budget, \$2,321,775 is expected to come from county sources, including taxes, fines, forfeitures and miscellaneous items for current expenses and \$225,000 for capital out-

lay. The county appropriation from the general fund (primarily from property tax revenue) is \$1,890,586 for current expenses, the same as last year. The capital outlay fund was cut about \$35,000.

The state will contribute \$10,392,706 plus about \$900,000 in matching funds. Federal funds are expected to total \$1,209,271.

The lunchroom gross income is projected at \$1,758,930.

The board decided to keep

the prices of school lunches at 75 cents for high school students, 70 cents for other students and \$1.25 for adults for lunch. Breakfast prices will be 45 cents for students and 65 cents for adults. Students whose families meet certain income require-

ments can qualify for a reduced lunch price of 40 cents or for a free lunch.

The federal government paid the school lunch program its full cost of \$1.17 per meal for free lunches during the past year for the first time, according to the annual report of Shelby Kilpatrick, food services supervisor. In the past, she said, the government paid a flat fee that was less than the free meal cost.

The school system operates one of the largest "restaurant" businesses in Duplin County. The breakfast and lunch program took in \$1,715,942.19 in student fees and federal contribu-

tions. The cost of the program was \$1,572,878.27.

Mrs. Kilpatrick reported food for the 1982-83 program cost \$741,828.82 and labor, \$612,404.01. Student and adult payments for lunches totaled \$354,221.38.

The program has \$472,413.72 in cash and inventory to start the food program this fall. Mrs. Kil-

patrick said this is enough to operate for 2.66 months without any income. Federal payments begin arriving one to two months after the start of school.

The federal payment to the lunch program during the past year totaled more than \$1.1 billion.

Pointers For Parents

WHAT MAKES A STRONG FAMILY?



Photo by Vivienne Della Grotta

What makes a strong family...especially in the presence of life in the '80s? One organization is working on some answers.

Despite many reports to the contrary, some experts in the field of family research say that the American family in the '80s is alive and well.

An article in a recent issue of the National PTA magazine, *PTA Today*, reveals some happy facts about modern family life. This issue developed the theme: *Families of the '80s*, covering such topics as the children of working parents, the benefits and problems faced by the country's five million "latchkey" children and reaching for quality in after-school child care.

Reports of the demise of the family are grossly exaggerated, says the article, although the last 20 years have been a difficult period. Despite this, many families still do remarkably well.

The article focuses on "outstanding examples of warm, caring families." Researchers studying such families found some interesting characteristics:

- Husbands and wives seemed to share basic responsibilities and decision-making. When asked who ran things at home, their children usually answered: "Mom and Dad."
- Discipline in the families was neither excessively strict nor permissive. Parents were clearly in charge

and set high standards but could be flexible in special circumstances.

- Children were respected, listened to but had clear guidelines about behavior.
- Family members talked openly and affectionately. They had arguments but knew how to resolve them.

The researchers offered some suggestions for families trying to improve their life together:

- An improved husband-wife relationship can increase the whole family's well-being. Parents should try to develop a closeness by sharing what they think and feel.
- In a single parent home, the parent should take the initiative to arrange activities that all family members can enjoy. Family members should express appreciation for each other often. Strong families interact with each other in terms of their good points.

Other articles in this issue explore the world of stepparenting, give tips for families about to move and advise parents on the opportunities—and possible hazards—of student tours.

For information about subscriptions to *PTA Today*, write to National PTA, 700 North Rush Street, Chicago, IL 60611-2571.

COOKING CORNER

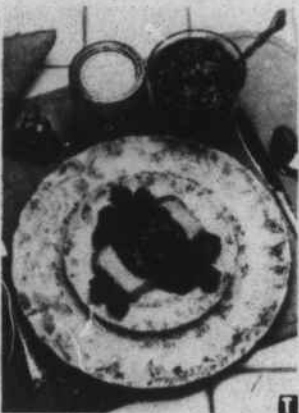
Mix And Match Fruits With Freezer Jam

One of the greatest rewards of jam making is being able to serve a treat not available in any supermarket. And, those who've discovered the freezer method of making no-cook jams and jellies have found a simple way to delight their families and friends with unusual, easy-to-make combination fruit jams.

An advantage of freezer jams is that you can easily combine your backyard fruit with many other of your favorite fruits to achieve a variety of outstanding jams. If, for example, you have a peach tree, you can combine your peaches with such fruits as raspberries, strawberries, apricots, pineapple, blueberries, or blackberries.

In addition to living up the morning toast, freezer jams are great as a pancake topping, filling for crepes or other desserts, and as a topping for ice cream. Just imagine the delicious taste of fresh fruit on your waffle or pound cake next winter.

Following is a recipe for berry-peach freezer jam supplied by MCP Foods, Inc. Additional recipes are available by writing the compa-



ny at P.O. Box 3633, Anaheim, CA 92803, or calling one of its toll-free numbers: 1-800-854-4615 and 1-800-422-4283 for California residents.

BERRY-PEACH FREEZER JAM (Yield - 7 cups)

Note: Raspberries, Strawberries, Blackberries or Black Raspberries may be used.

- 2 cups peaches, fully ripe, crushed (about 2 lbs)
- 1-1/4 cups berries, fully ripe, crushed (about 1-1/4 pints)

1/4 cup lemon juice

- 1 package MCP Pectin
- 1 cup light corn syrup (Karo)

4-1/2 cups sugar

To Prepare Fruit:

Peaches: Rinse, peel, pit and crush peaches.

Berries: Rinse and stem berries. Crush berries one layer at a time to let juices flow freely.

Method:

1. Measure sugar into dry bowl to be added later.
2. Measure crushed peaches, berries and lemon juice into a large bowl or kettle; stir well.
3. Slowly pour in MCP Pectin, stirring vigorously. Set aside 30 minutes. Stir

occasionally.

4. Add light corn syrup (Karo), stir well.

5. Gradually stir in sugar. Warming to 100° will hasten sugar dissolving time, but do not heat any hotter than 100°F.

6. When sugar has dissolved, the jam is ready to ladle into clean, air-tight, suitable freezer containers with tight lids. Leave 1/2" head space. Store in refrigerator for up to three weeks or in freezer for up to one year.

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