

# THE PINK HILL REVIEW

"Serving Pink Hill, Deep Run, Albertson, Beulaville, And Their Surrounding Areas"

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AUGUST 18, 1983

## Hunt hears support for I-40

**KENANSVILLE** — Gov. Jim Hunt received strong reminders of the importance of the I-40 highway extension between Wilmington and I-95 during a meeting of the Governor's Advisory Committee on Agriculture, Forestry and Seafood here Monday.

He made no reference to the highway during the session at the Duplin County Club between Faison and Kenansville. Following the meeting, however, he was questioned about the state's financial commitment to the highway.

"I have not had a chance to sit down with the Department of Transportation and go over it," Hunt replied.

He said funding for the freeway will be discussed late this month, but at present the state does not know how much federal money it will receive. "We should know that by the end of the month," he said.

"I'd be remiss if I didn't remind you again of the importance of I-40 to this region," state Rep. Wendell Murphy, D-Duplin, of Rose Hill,

said in his comment as a member of the committee. Murphy, a friend and college classmate of the governor, added, "We've felt for a long time we have not had our fair share of roads in the East, especially the southeastern part of the state."

Murphy urged the governor "to encourage the Department of Transportation to do everything it can to develop the highway."

Committee member Aubrey P. Larkins of Rocky Point commented, "I'd like to see I-40 completed before I die."

Larkins emphasized the importance of the interstate highway connection to the future of Southeastern North Carolina.

Committee member Van Johnson of Johnston County, where the I-40 extension is to connect with I-95 and ultimately with I-40 from Wake County, said the highway extension has support "down the line" in Johnston County, but "there is a lot of vocal opposition."

He noted that possible changes in design could reduce the amount of land required for the highway right of way and in doing so reduce some of the opposition.

Hunt announced he would sign an executive order next week that recommends preservation of prime farm and forest land from being taken over for industrial sites as much as possible.

Following the session, the governor said that if an industry is looking at two potential sites for location and one is on prime farm or forest land and the other is not, the industry will be urged to take the poorer site. However, if it insists on the prime site, that is its privilege, he said.

The governor expressed deep concern about the state's agricultural problems, saying, "the world-wide recession and the strong U.S. dollar are making it very rough to export farm products."

The Duplin County Extension Service acted as host for the committee meeting, which began Sunday afternoon at Duplin Wine Cellars in Rose Hill. It was followed by a barbecue at the Wendell Murphy home near Rose Hill and attendance at a production of *The Liberty Cart* at Kenansville. Monday morning the committee toured the Ralph Pickett tree farm at Beulaville.

## Local Schools To Benefit From Tax

**KENANSVILLE** — Duplin County schools would benefit from the schools' share of an extra half-cent local sales tax without loss of current county funding if the county adopts the newly authorized tax, according to board members here Monday.

The state legislature authorized counties to levy an additional half-cent local sales tax either by direct action of the county boards or by

referendums.

While not committing themselves to future years, board members indicated that if the tax is approved for Duplin County, the board would not cut county funding of the system by the amount of the tax.

However, only two commissioners gave outright endorsement of the new local tax Monday.

The other three said they would determine their position on the tax

following the county public hearing set for 7:30 p.m. Aug. 23 in the county courthouse in Kenansville.

The question about manipulating additional sales tax revenue to enable a county to reduce its funding of the school system arose from comments from some other county boards. The new law requires counties adopting the tax to allocate at least 40 percent of their receipts for school construction and maintenance. Members of some county boards have said they would favor reducing county appropriations to schools as much as the amount the schools received from the tax.

Duplin chairman W.J. Costin said he sees the schools' needs and for the present definitely favors adding the tax fund to other school funds.

Commissioner Calvin Coolidge Turner also favors adding the sales tax receipts to the school funds without changing the county appropriation.

Commissioner Dovey Penney said she definitely favors adding the tax money to the school funds.

Commissioner D.J. Fussell said he believes school needs should be carefully evaluated and added, "I'm for capital improvement."

Commissioner Allen Nethercutt said he believes the schools should get the 40 percent sales tax share in addition to present funds. "I would look very carefully at possibly reducing property taxes next year," he said. "We should keep up the schools, though."

Costin and Turner said they favor adoption of the half-cent sales tax for Duplin County.

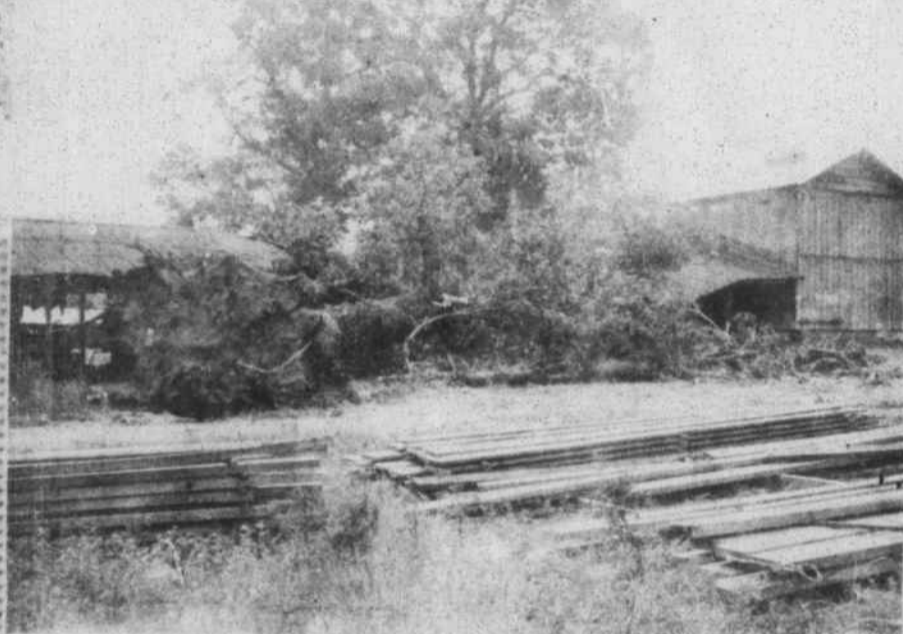
Nethercutt, Penney and Fussell said they want to hear what county residents have to say in the public hearing next week before committing themselves on the tax proposal.

At its regular meeting Monday, the board authorized an agreement to pay the state 75 percent of the cost of a new ambulance for Beulaville. The county's share of the cost will be \$16,306. Total cost of the ambulance is \$21,741.

The board also authorized Social Services Director Millie Brown to add two employees to handle the paperwork of new regulations.



**INVITATION** - Miss Liberty Patsy Ezzell and Junior Miss Liberty Elizabeth Murphy invite you to attend a Liberty Festival meeting at the Family Restaurant in Pink Hill this Thursday at 7 p.m. A dutch supper will be provided. Chairpersons for next year's festival will be selected. Persons are also needed to help form a delegation to go before the Lenoir County Board of Education to discuss using the school auditorium permanently for the Miss Liberty Pageant. Make plans for the Jr. Miss Liberty and Little Master contest coming very soon. Anyone interested in entering their child may call Yvonne Deatherage at 568-4162.



**STORM DAMAGE** - An afternoon storm in the form of high wind and hail struck in the area just east of Albertson Saturday. A large red oak tree crashed into a shelter

connecting two barns belonging to Raymond Turner and Calvin C. Turner. The top was lifted from an adjoining saw mill.

Photo by Lynda Stroud

### Reception

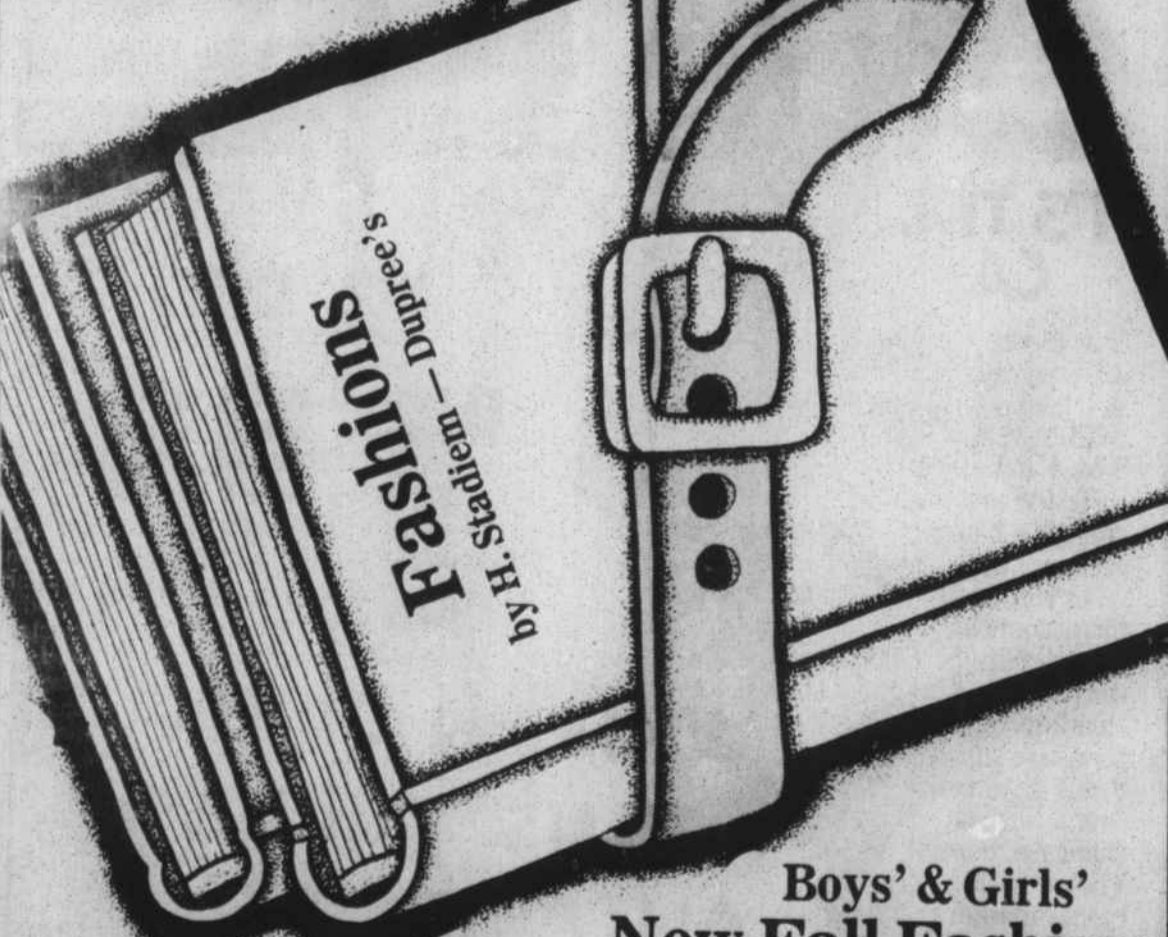
#### For Dr. Little

A committee meeting was held on Monday night for the purpose of discussing plans for a reception for Dr. and Mrs. Little. The group decided to welcome the new doctor into the Pink Hill community with a dutch barbecue. Details are being worked out for a date, although Sunday, Sept. 25, has been tentatively set for the Pink Hill Town Park. The Duplin Medical Association will be guests at the event.

### STOCKHOLDERS MEETING

On Sept. 12 there will be a Pink Hill Medical Center stockholders meeting at the Pink Hill Presbyterian Church at 7 p.m. You are encouraged to attend

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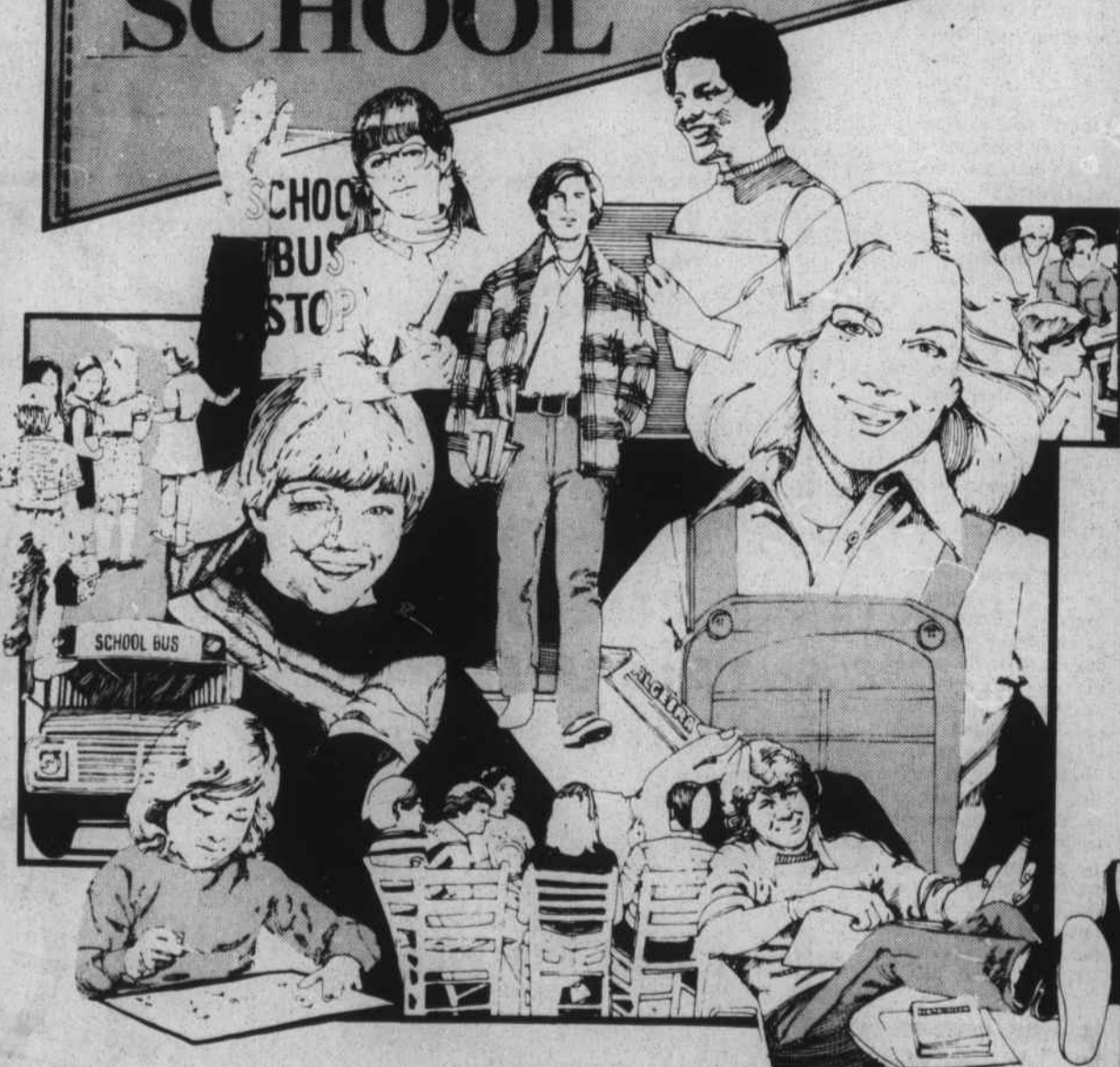
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