

# Duplin Times

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

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## Farmer's Day In Pink Hill October 2nd.

### Merchants Putting On A Show Just For The Farmers In This Section

In every county in North Carolina you will generally find some small community that has a real community cooperative spirit, "get-up-and-go" about them. In this section it's Pink Hill.

Next Thursday, Oct. 2, they will bring to this section, BOB STEELE, the famous Wild West Cowboy actor. Bob will put on a performance at the Playhouse Theatre, opposite the school building, in the afternoon and night.

The merchants, in cooperation with the school officials, will have the gymnasium decorated and practically every merchant in town will have a booth in which he will display his wares. There will be other attractions also for the farmers of this section. Between four and five thousand people are expected to visit Pink Hill that day.

#### DURWOOD MAXWELL FOLKS



(See Scenes of Mill on back page) For most of our readers the pictures are introduction enough for this story. It's the story of Maxwell's Mill, Pink Hill, N. C. H. D. Maxwell, Proprietor.

H. D. Maxwell -- that's Durwood, the old Doc's boy, or to you old timers, Flave Maxwell's son -- has done a lot more during his life than you'd think from his lazy way of talking and moving. He started out as a boy helping his Pa with his doctoring, driving horse and buggy, helping deliver babies, and pulling teeth. He bought one of the first automobiles in this section of the county, a two-cylinder Maxwell, with the gear shift over the left running-board, and you could see the grownups and kids in Chocolate running to get a look at it most any day as Durwood and the Doc went chugging along on their rounds of visiting the sick.

That was Durwood's life work until the day the Doctor died in 1932. Then he had to give up doing something for the people of Chocolate. That's where the mill comes in.

He first built the mill, on the old Jarman mill site in Chocolate, two miles from Pink Hill, in 1927. The dam broke in 1928, and then the millhouse burned, but he kept building it back.

After the Doc died, he ran the mill as a full-time job.

The present familiar structure houses the mill itself and has space for a lot of other activities. There's a little store where you can get a cold drink and always find somebody to talk to. Folks coming to the mill like to sit around and talk and the slow rhythm of the rocks furnishes a comfortable background.

One end of the mill house used to be for storage but that's different now. About three years ago Durwood and Sadie (whom he married 22 years ago) converted it into living quarters and moved in. Now there's seldom a time when somebody isn't at the mill, even when Durwood is gone on his frequent fishing trips.

Of course, the most familiar things about the mill are the picnic table, the barbecue pit and the grill.

Almost everybody thinks of the mill when he starts thinking about barbecue dinner, fish fry, or a cold drink, and that suits Durwood fine. He likes to have his folks around him. That's why he built the picnic table and the barbecue pit, and how that suits him.

### Pink Hill Town Of Much Distinction Is Old Town

TOM DAVIS, Mayor



is the smiling, hard working and popular Mayor of Pink Hill. Tom hasn't been mayor so very long but has proved himself worthy of the job. He succeeded J. F. May who served the town for years then retired when his last term expired.

#### CORRECTION

In the ad of King's Cash Grocery it states Rev. Ben L. King is proprietor. This is an error. It should have been REUBEN KING.

#### Sheriff's Office After Drunks

Duplin County officers drive on liquor sellers and drinkers over last week end was so successful it filled the jail and forced officers to cite a large number to appear in court, Deputy Sheriff C. L. Nicholson said Monday.

The raids netted six who were charged with selling and an unknown number of persons charged with being drunk. Twenty-nine were locked up on that charge.

#### Ralph Miller To Attend Meet In Whiteville

The N. C. Forest Service Personnel from five counties will attend a "Walden Training Meeting" in Whiteville, September 25 and 26. Personnel attending will include County Wardens, Association Rangers, Towermen and Towerman-Smokechasers and Tractors Drivers from Brunswick, Columbus, Bladen, Duplin & Pender counties. Raleigh Office Personnel attending will be J. R. Spratt, Chief of Forest Fire Control, M. M. Constanthen, State Law Enforcement Ranger, and Bob Shaw, Chief of Information and Education Branch.

The "Training Session" will be held in the Whiteville N. C. Forest Service Warehouse on the Chad-Bourn Road and will be under the direct supervision of the Whiteville Office Personnel of the North Carolina Forest Service.

for them when you're gathered around the table.

#### George Turner, Sr., Was Founder Lenoir-Duplin Border Town.

The town of Pink Hill has the distinction of being the only "Round town" in the United States. The town was laid out by Squire George Turner, Sr., founder of Pink Hill, using a stake at the old depot as the center of the town, and measuring 600 yards in each direction from the stake.

Mr. Turner owned the land, which is now Pink Hill. He laid out the town as it stands today, using his pocket compass. Restrictions placed by Mr. Turner on the sale of lots allowed only two lots in any one place to be sold to one person.

Previous to the establishment of the new Pink Hill and older Pink Hill, three and one-half miles east of the present Pink Hill, some argument had existed for some time. It was the coming of the railway, now discontinued, that established the Pink Hill as it is known today. Railroad authorities were so well pleased with the reputation given them of Pink Hill by Mr. Turner that they immediately suggested that he lay out and build a town, which he did.

Pink Hill has had two charters. The first having lapsed. It is now operating as a town in Lenoir County, State of North Carolina, under a second charter. The town has a mayor, three aldermen, a policeman and a town clerk.

Present city officials are: Tom Davis, Mayor; C. C. Jones, L. H. Turner and Cecil Howard, Commissioners.

In honor of George M. Turner, the founder of Pink Hill, a ball park was built in 1935, and named the George Turner Ball Park.

George Turner, Sr., in addition to being the founder of the town of Pink Hill, gave the land and aided in the founding of the Universalist Church, the first church in Pink Hill. He was founder also of the first bank in Pink Hill and was its president. Other officials of the bank were: T. A. Turner and Lonnie Smith. As much as \$250,000 was on deposit in this bank at one time.

George Turner, Sr., was the moving spirit in the early educational activities of the town which he fathered and a tobacco warehouse built by him, made Pink Hill a tobacco market for several years.

#### POSTMASTER

"JAP" SMITH is the popular Postmaster in Pink Hill. He's been on the job so long we wouldn't even ask him his age. "Jap" also owns the Smith Motor Co. adjacent to the garage. He is a native of Duplin, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Smith of Smith Township.

#### Prater Assists At Grady School

Rev. Leonard C. Prater is supplying in the B. F. Grady school for the Mary Anna Grady who is a native of Duplin.

#### BOB STEELE IN PERSON



Here he is folks and he will be in Pink Hill for a number of performances at the Playhouse Theatre next Thursday, October 2. All the kids will want to see a real Wild West movie actor.

#### BOB GRADY SAYS

In this issue we give you Pink Hill. There are many fine things about Pink Hill, we could have written about but time, space and lack of help prevent it. This issue comes to you from the merchants of Pink Hill. They appreciate your business. They are proud of their town and want to see it grow. It is probably the smallest town in North Carolina to have such a bank as First-Citizens. Not knowing any figures I'll bet Pink Hill does as much business as any town in the State, per inhabitant.

I can recall when you would have to get out and push your car thru the sand on Main Street. Now you can buy anything there that is necessary and convenient to living and farming.

They have a fine school, good community clubs. The women are always active in the interest of the town (and of course their bridge games). Their churches are fine.

Pink Hill has a number of unusually attractive homes which we all like to see in any community. C. B. Hayworth and his tent theatre has added new zest to the town. As soon as practical C. B. expects to build a substantial theatre building.

Bob Steele's coming to Pink Hill in person, is not only a tribute to Pink Hill, but a tribute to Duplin County as well. C. B. Hayworth and the merchants of Pink Hill have done themselves well in this attraction and I'm sure the good folks of Duplin will show them they appreciate it.

WHY NOT? Some folks in Pink Hill might resent this but I think it is a fine thought.

A few days ago I was talking with a business man there and he remarked, "Pink Hill ought to be in Duplin County. Nearly 70% of its business comes from Duplin (not including the ABC store) the line runs through the edge of town any way, why not extend the circle around town and take the whole town into Duplin."

Something to think about Pink Hillians. I believe Duplin would make an effort to do something for you.

#### PICTURES

We have quite a number of pictures of leading business men in Pink Hill this week. We wanted to get all of them but before we could get around we hit our limit. Particularly did we want to have Dr. Ruffin and Dr. Edwards. Guess we'll have to concoct some special write-up later as an excuse to run their pictures.

#### J. M. Jerritt Dies At The Home Of His Son Here

James Morris Jerritt, father of J. E. Jerritt of Kenansville, died at the home of his son here Monday morning. Death came as a result of old age infirmities. He would have been 82 years old in about a month.

Mr. Jerritt was born in Sidney, Nova Scotia. For many years he lived in Wisconsin. Thirty-seven years ago he came to North Carolina and had been with the Rowland Lumber company of New Bern since that time until ill health forced him to retire.

Funeral services were held from the home of his son at 3 o'clock Tuesday afternoon, conducted by the Rev. J. G. Morrison, pastor of the local Presbyterian church, assisted by the Rev. John M. Cline, pastor of the local Methodist church. Interment followed in the Golden Grove Cemetery in Kenansville.

#### Deadline Oct. 1st For Peanut Questionnaire

A last minute reminder to all Duplin peanut growers was issued today by Joe E. Sloan, chairman of CACC. "October 1 is the deadline," he said, "for returning the questionnaires on peanut acreages and production which were sent from this office. Information on each farm in 1948 will be taken from facts furnished by the farmers themselves. These questionnaires also establish each grower's right to vote in the coming referendum."

Failure to file the questionnaires by October 1 may result in smaller allotments for some farms.

#### A HOSPITAL

Pitt County last week voted to authorize the issuance of \$420,000 in bonds to aid construction of a \$900,000 hospital with a capacity of 140 beds in Greenville. Greenville already has one hospital.

#### Old Pink Hill, Three Miles Distance Was Founded By Anthony Davis



Anthony Davis, of Pink Hill, is the popular representative of the Duplin Times. Mrs. Heath has been with the Times for a number of years as Subscription Agent and Advertising Solicitor. At present she is also the Pink Hill news correspondent.

Mrs. Heath teaches in the Pink Hill Schools. She is known by nearly everyone in the county and to know Mamie is to like her.



Popular Mail carrier in Pink Hill, Jack wasn't quite so modest. He let us have his picture but Edgar Maxwell, carrier of Rt. 2, which serves most of Smith Township lost his nerve. Jack carries Rt. 1, in Pink Hill.

#### Welfare Notes

Duplin Welfare Department had 132 children cases under care during August and 97 during July.

This does not include children in A. D. C. homes. They had 20 parolees under their supervision also. During the years from 1929 to 1947 Duplin had thirteen county cases sterilized and thirty state institution sterilization cases authorized.

The Welfare Department had a Juvenile Court case on Tuesday. The case was a small colored boy who will be placed in the county.

More and More children in Duplin are receiving services through the division of Psychiatric and Psychological state department.

#### Lies Buried Beside Wife In Marble Vault At Old Town.

The story of Anthony Davis and his wife, owners of the first Pink Hill, which was a one-man town, some three and one-half miles east of the present Pink Hill, sounds like a story one might read in a fairy book.

There were five stores built in the form of a U, all owned by Mr. Davis, and the homes, some dozen or more, of the workers in these stores and on the contingent farm which made up the old town of Pink Hill.

These stores were fenced in, and admittance was through a big gate. One of the five stores was a general store. In one store was carried the heavy groceries, meat, lard, salt, etc., one store was a wine house, one a shoe and hat store, and finally a hardware store was added.

The town of Anthony Davis was one of the buying centers of Eastern North Carolina. At that time there was no place where purchases could be made except at Richlands, Kenansville, Jacksonville, Sarsota, Beulaville, and Chinquapin. Traveling men made it a stopping place. Anthony Davis was known to some as an eccentric. No children survived the couple, though five died while still in youth. He disagreed with his relatives, and at the time of his death he left his property to the public schools of Lenoir County, naming the county commissioners as executors. In his later days, Mr. Davis' property had dwindled and there was not enough of it to deeply interest the county commissioners, hence they allowed members of the family to break the will, and his relatives secured his property after all.

When Mr. Davis and his wife passed away they were both interred in metallic caskets, these in turn placed in marble vaults, which were constructed by B. D. Ford and his son Jean. Mr. Davis was upward of eighty when he passed away, November 18, 1894. His wife died on September 16, 1889.

The graves of Anthony Davis, and his wife, who was Rachel Thomas, may still be seen today, on the site of the old Pink Hill, the twin shafts of the monuments that mark their graves pointing heavenward.

But today where once stood the proud town of Anthony Davis, there is nothing else much left to tell the story.

One interesting sidelight on the story of the old town of Pink Hill, is that of the physician Dr. W. W. Denny, who came from Guilford County to Pink Hill in 1856, in response to an advertisement by Mr. Davis for a physician and remained there until about 1900. He died in the present town of Pink Hill.

Evidently the Davises had some difficulty in securing a satisfactory physician, but Dr. Denny won the favor of both Anthony and his wife Rachel. Dr. Denny had one daughter, Katie, who at an early age became the head clerk in the Davis stores, and remained in that position until she married L. P. Tyndall, founder of the store "L. P. Tyndall's Sons" in 1908.

#### FRED WILLIAMS



Know him boys? He is manager of one of the most lucrative businesses in Pink Hill, the ABC Store.

#### C. B. AND MARION HAYWORTH



Present owners of the PLAYHOUSE THEATRE in Pink Hill. Most credit for bringing Bob Steele to Pink Hill can go to C. B. Hayworth and Marion Hayworth.