

Building a
Finer

Duplin Times

Two Sections
20 Pages
This Week

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

VOL. 21, NO. 12

Section 1 KENANSVILLE, NORTH CAROLINA, THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1954

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$1.50 per year in Duplin and adjoining counties; \$4.00 outside this area in N. C.; \$5.00 outside N. C.

PRICE TEN CENTS

Wilmington All Set For 250,000 Festival Visitors

This Week With SAM BYRD

THE MOON IS BLUE
Azalea Festival week got off to a fine start Monday night at Wilmington with a brilliant opening of F. Hugh Herbert's amusing comedy, "The Moon Is Blue."
Wilmington theatre-goers turned out in milk and family jewels to applaud a professional company down from New York. Peggy Ann Garner, Bramwell Fletcher and James Burns, local boy home from Broadway for the week, played the featured roles.
James H. McKoy, a showman of many years experience, coordinated the production and he gave it a professional touch.
The production was presented in Thalian Hall as a feature of the Festival through the cooperation of the Thalian Association and the Azalea Festival Committee.
At first intermission, the flower banked lobby of the famous theatre radiated a pleasant electric glow from the satisfied audience and relieved festival committeemen. It was a hit and everybody was happy. Some even went out in the yard to turn weather eye to the sky in anticipation of coming events through the crowded week.
The planners made a successful choice in "The Moon Is Blue." Bramwell Fletcher, veteran Broadway and English star, romped skillfully through the evening. The play is a breezy dissertation on sex and the complexities of stubborn virtue. The three acts are concerned with a delightful young thing on top of the Empire State Building. The thin plot carries the girl to the man's apartment, with an understanding between the couple that steaks and a berry shortcake are the order of the evening.
Fletcher, father of the arch-disgraced finances, drops in for a drink and runs away with the next 24 hours.
Young love triumphs and after the architect gets a punch in the eye from the policeman father of the eager young virgin, the play ends happily on top of the Empire State Building.
Peggy Ann Garner, who endeared herself to millions of movie goers for her unforgettable portrayal of the young girl in "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," plays "Patty O'Neil," cause of it all. Patty is a delightful chatterbox concerned with virtue and particularly her own. Miss Garner gets her off to a fine start and ends on the right note.
Wilmington's James Burns gives a forthright performance as David Gresham, the architect. His performance was well received by a houseful of spectators.
Joseph Hardy came all the way from New York to play the cop who pops Gresham in the eye. He did okay.
The play continues through Saturday night and it's worth the trip to Wilmington for this evening of sophisticated fun.
Only one thing bothered me during the evening: how one man could drink so many martinis, so much brandy in such rapid succession, and still be alive at the end of the proceedings. By the end of the second act Bramwell Fletcher, who plays the steady-drinking David Slater, had the audience's tongues hanging out.
Thalian Hall, where the play was presented, is the home of The Thalian Association which was organized in 1788 and is the oldest Little Theatre Group in the United States. While few organizations have so colorful a history as The Thalian, there are still fewer existing theatres as old as Thalian Hall. Voices of the greatest names in theatrical and concert history have been heard within the splendid

BIRD'S EYE VIEW

The huge generating plant Carolina Power & Light Company is building on the Cape Fear River gives Wilmington a new landmark. The 200-foot stack is visible for miles and draws countless visitors to the multi-million-dollar project. Gulls come for the food workmen throw out for them. (Photo by Hugh Morton.)

Johnson Named Vice-President Of School Group

Superintendent of Schools in Duplin County since 1935, Mr. Johnson was elected vice-president of the Superintendent's Division of the North Carolina Education Association at a breakfast meeting in the Hotel Sir Walter in Raleigh last Saturday. He served as secretary of the Association last year. Others elected were J. C. Manning of Wilmington, president and A. D. Konegay of Hendersonville, secretary. Mr. Johnson's election to the vice-presidency means he will be elevated to the presidency next year.

Local School Groups To Meet Next Wed.

Dr. Anderson of Chapel Hill will be in Duplin next Wednesday to meet with the local school groups for school improvements. He will have with him Doctors Phillips, Ellis, Brown and Tarbet from the University staff. They will meet with the Negro group at Charity at 3 p.m. and the white group at the Kenansville school, at 8 p.m. Each member of the Executive Committee of the County School Improvement Committee is urged to attend. This program is being sponsored by the University of North Carolina and the Kellogg Foundation.

Large Group Flower Lovers Hear Mrs. Nowell

The basic elements of design as defined as line, form, texture, pattern and color were blended into a most fascinating demonstration of flowers to be used in churches and homes by Mrs. John M. Nowell of Macon, Ga., national judge and flower arranger expert, blended the art of flower arranging, charming personality and Georgia accent into a web that completely entwined her audience. The fascinating wit, the love for flowers, the love of the Master who created the flowers, and the magnificent art of flower arranging, fell into line so beautifully, that before the day was over, Mrs. Nowell had made a most wonderful line-mass arrangement of her listeners.
Mrs. Nowell spoke to about one hundred and fifty people in the Kenansville Auditorium on Saturday, March 20, and gave an explanation demonstration on "Flower Arranging and Color Harmony." At the beginning of her talk she stressed several of the fundamental elements of flower arranging and told that one of the most important facts to remember was that "Dominant plant material either in line, form, texture and color must be related to the container." Since 1929 Mrs. Nowell has been hearing the best arrangers in the country and has taken from them the best of each.
After her introductory remarks she quietly and smoothly moved into her first flower arrangement emphasizing a line arrangement with a small amount of plant material and a lovely red bird as the focal point. Her second arrangement was yellow daffodils in a black container and her third arrangement was of foliage, root for line, and camellias for color, which emphasized the line mass arrangement and showed that a straight line is not as interesting as a curved line. Her fourth arrangement was a lively number done with red gladioli.
Her fifth arrangement of Judas branches and azalea was done in a lavender container in a crescent pattern. Another and sixth arrangement was a mass arrangement of roses, which are considered formal flowers, showing the symmetrical line with each side having the same



Wilmington, North Carolina's azalea city is ready for the 250,000 visitors expected there March 25-28 for the 1954 Azalea Festival.
The growing Tar Heel tourist attraction, in addition to an ever-increasing myriad of azaleas and other blossoms, is offered this year, its biggest entertainment features.
Opening Monday night for its only North Carolina run, is historic Thalian Hall, was the Broadway hit, "The Moon Is Blue," featuring Peggy Ann Garner. The show runs through Saturday.
The Sixth Azalea Open PGA golf tourney, with \$10,000 in prizes at stake, begins at the Cape Fear Country Club Friday. It ends Sunday.
Movie Actress Ella Raines will head a bevy of beauties at the seventh queen of the Azalea Festival. She will be crowned at the coronation ball at Wrightsville Beach's Lumina Ballroom Saturday night by Gen. Mark Clark.
Other beauties include Neva Jane Langley, 1953 "Miss America" girl and Anita Colby, beautiful "career" girl.
Other attractions of the mushrooming Southeastern North Carolina festival will be a huge fireworks display Thursday night, a four-day rodeo, the visit of Jack Bailey's MBS "Queen For A Day," Saturday a 50-foot parade interspersed with 58 marching units and bands will wind through Wilmington's azalea-decorated downtown section.
Other feature events include broadcasts Friday and Saturday by "Big Jon and Sparky" appearances of nationally famed folk music stars, the General Motors Parade of Progress, a cottage lane art show, Thursday night street dances, the U. S. Air Force Drum and Bugle Corps. Blue Barron will play for Saturday's coronation ball.
In addition to the flowering splendor of the city's parkways and avenues, the visit of the Greenfield Lake visitors will be able to see breathtaking floral displays at Orion Plantation, "Arlie Gardens, Pleasant Oak Plantation, and in private gardens throughout the city.

Red Cross Fund Drive Reports Coming In Slowly, Stevens Says

Henry L. Stevens, III, Fund Campaign Manager for the Duplin County Chapter, American Red Cross reports that funds are being turned in to Chapter headquarters here in Kenansville very slowly, although there is evidence throughout the county that workers are still busy in the various communities, and he hopes they will be able to make final report before the 30th.
As of this date, (March 24th), the following funds have been recorded:
Potter's Hill \$ 68.02
B. F. Grady & Outlaw's Bridge 153.46
Warsaw 580
Wallace 725.00
Rose Hill 108.25
Faison 90.00
Kenansville 232.44
Galpoo 95.50
Making a total of \$1445.73
This is less than 50 percent of Duplin's quota of \$5,025.00, but it is hoped to have better news to report next week.
If you have not made your contribution please do so today. If you have already given, maybe you can give more to help make up the deficit. Your help and cooperation will be greatly appreciated by Mr. Stevens and the other members of the Executive Board of this Chapter.

Chief Brown Is Looking For Stolen Safe

Chief of Police A. R. Brown of Richlands called the Times this week and asked that we publish the fact that some papers were recently found on the highway between Kenansville and West Siding, about half way, that came from the safe of J. F. Mohn that was stolen in Richlands several weeks ago. Mrs. Joe Foster found the papers, he said, and it is believed the safe may be somewhere in that area. It is about a 3 X 4 foot safe. A reward is offered for its recovery. Anyone who leads to its recovery will be rewarded.

Any Syphilis In Duplin County?

The public is advised that there will be a team composed of Messrs. H. M. Mauldin, Ben Hayes and Dickie Davis working in Duplin County for the next four weeks. These men are making a survey of Syphilis in this County.
The program is voluntary and not forced. It is sponsored by U. S. Public Health Service, the State Board of Health and Local County Health Department. All local physicians are aware of the survey and are cooperating in helping to make it a success.
The information received from this work will help us to know more about Syphilis and how to combat it.
It is requested that the public give full cooperation to this program.
By John F. Powers
Health Officer.

Greenville Art Group To Hear Byrd And Ragan

Sam Byrd, Editor of The Weekly Gazette in LaGrange and Associate of Bob Grady on the Duplin Times will address the 1954 Annual Community Arts Festival in Greenville on Thursday, April 1st. Also speaking at this meeting will be Sam Ragan, managing editor of the News and Observer in Raleigh.
The Annual Community Arts Festival in Greenville will get under way Sunday, March 28th with exhibits and will continue through April 1st, according to a recently issued program. The Festival is sponsored by the Greenville Woman's Club and The Community Art Club.

Beulaville Seniors Planning Annual Play Friday Night In School Auditorium

Hold your hats, folks! You might lose them when you see the dead men walking around in the Mortuary of Mr. Bob Nelson. Hercules Nelson and Wilbur Maxwell are sure that something must be radically wrong when they come for a visit to Uncle Bob's place. They didn't know that he was a Mortician!
Yes, neighbors, you will laugh and cringe at the antics of Hercules and Wilbur as they romp through the three act comedy-mystery called "Tinders Creepers" presented by the Beulaville Senior Club on Friday, March 26, at 8:00 o'clock.
The performance, written by Donald Peyton, is given with the permission of the Art Craft Play Company of Cedar Rapids, Iowa.
In addition to Wilbur and Hercules, you will meet Mr. Grady, the dead man whose heart stops a beat on that real good woman, Grady, who is also 18 years young. There are Claude and Daphne, the

New Billie Graham Show At Beulaville

Newest film released by Billy Graham Evangelistic Films, "OILTOWN, U.S.A." will be shown in Beulaville on March 31st, in the Beulaville School Auditorium.
Evangelist Graham two years ago amazed the entertainment and religious world with the world's first Christian western film, "MR. TEXAS." More than 5,000,000 persons saw the film in its first two years of showings, and the Graham organization reported that 135,000 persons made "decisions for Christ" through the ministry of the picture.
"OILTOWN, U.S.A." was filmed during Graham's crusade in Houston, Texas, and features the young evangelist and his team in their meetings in Rice Stadium where the attendance was as high as 60,000 for a single service.
Featured in the 90 minute, full color film are Colleen Townsend Evans, Paul Power, Robert Clarke, Georgia Lee, Ralph Hoopes, and the stars of "MR. TEXAS," Redd Harper and Cindy Walker.
The doors to Beulaville School Auditorium will be opened at 7 p.m., with the picture beginning at 7:30 p.m. All seats are on a "first come" basis with no admission charge.
One of every five dollars in America will be given by donors, according to estimates of the American Cancer Society which is seeking \$40,000,000 for cancer control

Court Of Honor Magnolia Monday

The Scouts of Duplin will hold their first Court of Honor for 1954 Monday, March 29 at Magnolia High School. The public is invited to attend this Scouting event. There will be awards to be given to Scouts from every section of the county. Let's all join forces and show the Scouts that we will back them 100%.

Drivers Tagged

RALEIGH - State Highway Patrolmen in February tagged 17,756 drivers for traffic law violations the Motor Vehicles Department reported today.
Despite the shorter month, troopers arrested 4,097 more alleged violators than they did in January.
They drove nearly two million miles on routine patrols and made spot inspections of 139,810 drivers' licenses.
During the month they locked up 571 drunken drivers, investigated 1,615 accidents, inspected 90,411 vehicles, corrected 21,995 lights, and investigated 7,899 complaints.
Other activities: 16,092 courtcases, 928 equipment tickets, 7,523 warning tickets, 1,7 vehicles weighed, 70 stolen cars covered.
The monthly report covered the activities of troopers under the command of Captain S. H. Mitchell, Greenville; C. R. Williams, Fayetteville; A. W. Welch, Greensboro; W. F. Bailey, Salisbury; and D. G. Lewis, Asheville.
G. R. (Bob) Dail of Kenansville suffered a severe hand injury to his right hand Monday when he was working on a pool table. He thrust his hand into a ball pocket and he withdrew it caught on a nail and was torn badly. It took fifty stitches to sew it up.

Drives Tagged

RALEIGH - Driver license examiners of the Department of Motor Vehicles approved 35,394 applications for permits in February and collected \$71,016.90 in fees.
They turned down 6,752 applicants largely because of their failure to pass the rules of the road test.
SAFETY SLOGAN
RALEIGH - Although North Carolina isn't the first state to have a safety slogan on its auto license plates, it is the only state using such a tag this year the Motor Vehicles Department said today.
More than a half-million Tar Heel vehicles will eventually carry the "Drive Safely" tag being distributed during 1954. Of the 48 states, 20 have slogans or nicknames on their '54 plates.
DRIVERS TAGGED
RALEIGH - State Highway Patrolmen in February tagged 17,756 drivers for traffic law violations the Motor Vehicles Department reported today.
Despite the shorter month, troopers arrested 4,097 more alleged violators than they did in January.
They drove nearly two million miles on routine patrols and made spot inspections of 139,810 drivers' licenses.
During the month they locked up 571 drunken drivers, investigated 1,615 accidents, inspected 90,411 vehicles, corrected 21,995 lights, and investigated 7,899 complaints.
Other activities: 16,092 courtcases, 928 equipment tickets, 7,523 warning tickets, 1,7 vehicles weighed, 70 stolen cars covered.
The monthly report covered the activities of troopers under the command of Captain S. H. Mitchell, Greenville; C. R. Williams, Fayetteville; A. W. Welch, Greensboro; W. F. Bailey, Salisbury; and D. G. Lewis, Asheville.
G. R. (Bob) Dail of Kenansville suffered a severe hand injury to his right hand Monday when he was working on a pool table. He thrust his hand into a ball pocket and he withdrew it caught on a nail and was torn badly. It took fifty stitches to sew it up.

Sidewalk Art Show Azalea Festival

WILMINGTON, March 25 - The Azalea Festival Sidewalk Art Show is actually a community affair.
Although it is composed of the works of the area and Tar Heel artists, its very existence is secured by the cooperation of the people along Cottage Lane, where the Sidewalk Art Show is held.
Cottage Lane is one of the oldest streets in historical Wilmington and is marked on the original plan for the town. It cuts through the center of the second block of Third and Fourth Streets between Dock and Orange Streets. The lane actually continues from Fourth to Front Streets, but only one block of the lane is used by the show.
The exhibition takes place during the Seventh Annual Azalea Festival, which is scheduled March 25-28. It opens noon Friday, March 26, and continues until sundown each night through Sunday, March 28.
Ten thousand people visited the lane last year where approximately 400 works were on exhibition. Open to the public free, the show is also open to SENCI and North Carolina artists. Exhibits must be brought to the lane or to the Chamber of Commerce, Fourth and Princess Streets, and must be called for at either of these locations Sunday at sundown.
Residents along the lane assist with the hanging of the show, storing of works each night and decorations for the block. This year the event will include several new features: sidewalk cafe, strolling musicians, artists sketching caricatures or portraits, massive candy-striped poles and bright balloons and maybe even a monkey and an organ grinder.
The rules announced by the Azalea Festival Art Committee include: media of oil, watercolors, pastel, graphic art, sculpture, ceramics and photographs. Oils, watercolors and pastels must be framed. Photographs and graphic art must be matted with heavy matboard. There will be no limit to the number of entries per artist.
Entries must be delivered to Cottage Lane where they will be judged for three first prizes and one honorable mention. The prizes will be donated by Wilmington merchants. The jury will be announced at a later date.
Only original works will be accepted. The Festival Art Committee will not be responsible for any loss or damage to works of art; however, greatest care will be taken of all entries.

Duplin Republicans Meet Here Name Slate Of County Officers

The Duplin County Republican convention met in the Court House March 19th, with 11 precincts represented. The order of business was to nominate candidates for a Republican ticket in the coming elections. The nominees are:
Sheriff, H. B. Konegay; Coroner, B. F. Brinkley; County Commissioners, Laurence Kelley, Admah Lanier and C. L. Quinn; Legislature, Sam Walker and Senata, O. C. Blanchard, and W. F. Brice.
A resolution was unanimously adopted to endorse Dallas Herring for election to the Board of Education, due to his excellent past record.

Cabin F.W.B. Auxiliary Meets

The Cabin Free Will Baptist Auxiliary held its regular monthly meeting in the church dining hall early this month. Mrs. Flava Mercer, president, presided with nineteen members present. Mrs. Walter Rhodes had charge of the devotional program, assisted by Messrs. Frank Rhodes, Veld Thomas, Frank Mercer, Jr. and Fay Kennedy. After the business session Mrs. Flava Mercer served delicious refreshments.