

# Let Contracts, New Wallace - Rose Hill High Soon

## EDITORIALS

(GOOD BYE, SAM BYRD)

By J. R. Grady

We look at life in gaiety  
And we look at life in hope  
We look at life with a philosophical thought  
And we look at life in mope

Sam Byrd was the optimist, with hope. The man was boiling over with a belief and faith in mankind and its future. Sam never looked on the darker side of life. He was enthusiasm personified. He was on the onward and upward side. Even in his last days he never lost his desire to contribute something. His zest did not fail him. He was a friend to everyone, in his way, as we all have our ways.

When he accepted the surrender of one of the Japanese Islands in World War II I can picture him standing there as he stood in the closing scene of the Duplin Story — truly triumphant. Not just proud of his opportunity to accept that surrender but proud of his "buddies" and his homeland.

Sam and I saw many days, weeks and months working together in the Duplin Story. His heart was in it. He felt that it was his greatest achievement in life and I don't believe there is another man on earth who could have done the Duplin Story as did Sam.

In 1953, December, he came to see me and we discussed newspaper work. He had always wanted to edit a weekly paper. I at once gave him the job as editor of the Weekly Gazette in LaGrange. I have a feeling that Sam may have been physically weakening at that time. However he went at the job with a bang and did some good writing. He suffered physically many months before the end came. I don't know but I hope it came as painlessly as possible.

He was working on his last book while in the hospital. I don't know how far he got on it. Sam had a dream of retiring in Duplin County and do a novel on Duplin and its people. He could have done a great job. His going at this early age of 47, no doubt, has cost Duplin some good literature.

His friends were legion from Europe throughout America. Although actually born in Wayne County he somewhat liked to be called a son of Duplin. He is the only person ever to have been officially made Honorary Citizen of Duplin County and of Kenansville. Sam had a destiny, I think, but nature took it away from him. We hope he is resting. —J.R.G.

By J. R. GRADY

### WE ARE FOR KINSTON FOR THE COLLEGE

"This area" is in Eastern Carolina and, more concentrated, Southeastern Carolina. As the Presbyterians begin to prepare to consolidate Peace Junior College at Raleigh, P.J.C. at Maxton, and Flora McDonald at Red Springs, into an outstanding four year college the time is beginning to push on this section as to what we can do. The decision is to be made soon, and it is our duty to express ourselves.

As we see it Duplin is out of the running. The Times had hoped that we had a chance but as we see it now we do not. The Duplin Times is endorsing Kinston. Reasons: Kinston is geographically located, the people are raising much money and they are our neighbors. The distance is so close that busses could convey most of our college students who wish to attend the college daily and save dormitory fees. Also Albemarle Presbytery is growing and Wilmington Presbytery, adjoining it, is the home of Presbyterianism in this state. But, going further than that, the college at Kinston would have its religious and cultural influence on our whole county. In our opinion this college is going to grow into one of the larger colleges in the South. The Times suggests that Duplin County churches, regardless of denomination, and Duplin County, officially endorse Kinston as we will pass the information on to proper authorities. —J.R.G.

November Eleven

I did not get to the Veteran's Day program in Warsaw today, but I have been to so many I feel I could and may have to, write it up. I feel that I already know the theme Senator Irvin talked on. Veterans Day is "celebration" but during that day of celebration we pause during the program hour and I know most of us turn our minds back to World War I and World War II to the boys who sacrificed their lives and the boys who offered to sacrifice their lives that freedom may reign in the world. Sometimes I wonder if such celebrations should not be in churches instead of in the open and carnivals running. However, we are humans, and I guess the spirit of the occasion is the spirit of the boys the day they landed "over here" from "over there", so let nature have its course. We are entitled to a little cooperative fun once in a while and we who did not go "Over There" need a little more fraternizing with the boys who did.

Duplin has always been noted for its recognition of our "old Soldiers" and now "Young Soldiers" are carrying on the tradition of the "Old Soldiers Reunion" in Kenansville, only it has been transplanted from Kenansville to Warsaw. Let's keep up the tradition. —J.R.G.



The above group was elegantly honored on Monday of last week when they were invited to appear before the Board of County Commissioners and each presented a framed certificate showing a picture of the hospital, at top and of the nurses' home and Health center at the bottom. The inscription thanked the group for their efforts in securing the hospital. A story on this was carried in the Times last week. The group composed: the building committee. Seated from left to right are: Mrs. Winnie Wells, County Attorney who is pinching

hitting for Harry Kramer of Wallace, member of the committee; J. O. Stokes, Kenansville, chairman of the committee; J. E. (Bob) Grady, vice chairman; in the background, Lee Brown of Warsaw who is chairman of the Board of Trustees; Emmett Kelly of Glendon; Miss Margaret Williams, secretary to the committee Secretary, F. W. McGowan who is last on the right.—Photo by Tom Boney. Speaking for the committee, we wish to thank the Board of Commissioners for this honor.—Bob Grady.

### Christmas Seals For 1955 Mailed To 5,000 Duplin County Citizens Wed

The traditional delivery of Christmas Seals took place Wednesday when postmen carried some 5,000 letters to county residents from the Duplin Tuberculosis Association. The letters, signed by Hugh S. Johnson, Jr., chairman of the 1955 Christmas Seal Sale, constitute the only appeal made for funds to support the association's fight against tuberculosis.

"Our post office is proud to handle the Christmas Seal letters," said Postmaster Fred Barrs. "We hope people will read them carefully and decide to increase their regular contribution to the tuberculosis association."

Tuberculosis research must be speeded up to end the terrible cost of TB in money and human lives. Your Christmas Seal dollars will help.

### Mrs. Taylor Makes Plea For Needy At Christmas

Perhaps folks have planned their Christmas gifts long ago," said Mrs. Taylor, Superintendent of Department of Public Welfare, "but whether they have or not, we hope that they are thinking of someone who has no expectation of anything except what kind hearted generous persons may do."

There are many in the Sanatorium at the State Hospital, the training schools, and even in boarding homes who would like to have and who need someone's thoughtfulness in providing Christmas cheer. Mrs. Taylor asks that anyone interested in the Welfare Department, clothing, shoes, stamps, stationery, will all be appreciated. A lovely Christmas card would please many of these people who cannot be home during the holidays and whose loved ones can do so little for.

### Rev. C. W. Kirby To Hold Revival In Beulaville

The Rev. C. W. Kirby will begin a series of Revival Meetings at the Beulaville Holiness Church, November 21.

The revival will continue through November 26, according to the pastor, the Rev. R. W. Craft.

### Warsaw Observes Union Services Thanksgiving

Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian churches, in Warsaw, are planning a Union Thanksgiving Service.

It will be held in the Baptist Church, Thursday, November 24, at 9:30 a.m. This is the annual Thanksgiving service.

Offerings for the different denominations' orphanages will be taken at this service. The Rev. Norman H. Flowers will deliver the message.

### Births Recorded

The following births were recorded at Dr. C. F. Hawes Clinic: on November 9 through 13.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lee Merritt, Rose Hill, a daughter, November 10.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Reynolds Hunter, Rose Hill, a daughter, November 11.

Mr. and Mrs. Jackson Aman Turner, Wallace, a son, November 11.

Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt Johnson, Wallace, a son, November 11.

Mr. and Mrs. James Matthews, Wallace, a daughter, November 12.

Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland Mathis, Teachey, a son, November 13.

### Notice

Willie James Smith, announces that the Ancestral Sale, of furnishings, will be held on November 18 and will be held.

### Dr. Willis' Office Burns, Now Located In Duplin Hospital

Fire threatened real serious damage in Kenansville Wednesday afternoon. The fire department was called to a field grass fire and as the truck was taking off, fire broke out in Dr. Willis' office. Cars were chasing the fire truck and Warsaw and Magnolia fire trucks responded. Dr. Willis was out of town and his office was closed.

### Kenansville Club Sponsors Xmas Demonstrations

The Kenansville Garden Club will sponsor a "Christmas Wrappings Demonstration" by Mrs. Allen Draughn, Sr., and a "Christmas Arrangement" Demonstration by Mrs. Herman Pippin on Wednesday night, November 20th at 7:30 in the Courtroom in Kenansville. This promises to be a most interesting and helpful program.

Admission will be 50c and tickets are being sold by all members of the Garden Club. Funds will be used for the club's project of beautifying the spring grounds in Kenansville.

### 11 Year Old Ray Hilburn Kelly Is Killed By 14 Year Old Friend

Ray Hilburn Kelly, 11, of Calypso, was accidentally killed Tuesday afternoon by a bullet from a 22 pistol in the hands of a playmate, Lamar Jackson, 14.

He died immediately after entering the Henderson Crumpler Clinic in Mount Olive, to which he was rushed after the accident.

He was shot through the chest.

Funeral services were held today at 2 p.m. at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Kelly and burial was in the Calypso cemetery. The Rev. M. M. Turner, pastor of the Calypso Baptist Church officiated.

Surviving in addition to his parents are three brothers, Donald,

Contracts for the new Wallace - Rose Hill school will be awarded in the near future, according to word received here from Leslie N. Boney, Jr., Wilmington architect. Banning unforeseen hindrance of any kind, plans will be in the hands of contractors and prospective bidders within two weeks.

In explaining the delay encountered thus far Mr. Boney stated that the drawings and specifications are complete except for parts of the sewage disposal system, which are under study by the State Board of Health. M. O. Caton, district engineer for the health board, visited the school site October 26th, and he met Mr. Boney at the site again last Friday for consultation.

Due to the flatness of the site, the engineers are having some difficulty in arranging for normal flow of sewage without expensive alterations in original plans, but it is expected that agreement between the school and health authorities will be reached in a few days and the final drawings of this phase of the project can be completed.

While the site chosen by representatives of the Wallace and Rose Hill school districts is very flat, it is situated near a creek which affords excellent drainage. In the event that access may be obtained to it. The project, however, provides for a disposal plant for the sewage somewhere on the twenty-five acre site purchased by the county. It is the location of this facility and the adjustment in elevation of pipes leading to it from the school that the health authorities have under study.

Superintendent O. P. Johnson, who has been urging the architects to release the plans at the earliest possible date, indicated that the contracts will be awarded in time for erection of the building by the beginning of the next school term, Johnson said that he was reasonably certain that contracts could be let at the meeting of the Board of Education the first of December if not earlier and that this would be soon enough for completion of the project by school opening in 1956.

Mr. Johnson also said that just as soon as Mr. Boney has completed his part of the job and contracts let, that work would begin on securing a site plans made for the new Kenansville - Magnolia - Warsaw consolidated high school.

### District Fellowship Rally Be Held At Grove Church Sun.

Senior High Fellowship members from Duplin, Sampson, Pender, Wayne, Onslow, Craven and Carter counties will gather at the Grove Presbyterian Church in Kenansville on November 20th for their annual fall rally.

Registration will begin at 2:00. David Gillis, of Mount Olive, Faith Commission Chairman of the Wilmington Presbytery's S. H. F. Council will have charge of the opening worship. Barbara Mitchell and Jo Ann Wade, district chairmen from Kenansville and Wildwood will preside over the business session. Kay Farrior of Burgaw, who also is a district chairman, is in charge of the closing worship.

The highlight of this portion of the rally will be the showing of the movie entitled "The Guest" and the presentation of the 1955 theme to the group by Connie Jo Wells of Albemarle, Citizenship Commission Chairman of the S.H.F. Council.

Miss Dot Lynch of Goldsboro, Area Worker for Wilmington and Albemarle Presbyteries will be a special guest at the rally.

The planning committee for the Rally is composed of Barbara Mitchell, Kay Farrior, Jo Ann Wade and Ed Johnson, district chairman from Wallace.

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### Sam Byrd Died Monday At Duke Hospital After Lengthy Illness; Had Rich Life

BY PAUL BARWICK

Monday around noon, death came to Sam Byrd while he was a patient at Duke Hospital, in Durham.

For many months he put up a brave and courageous fight against the dreaded disease of leukemia, cancer of the blood.

After spending many years away from his native southern, Sam returned in 1948 and 1950 to produce the Duplin Story, a magnificent pageant on the history of Duplin County. He dearly loved the people



whom he knew so well and, often referred to the wonderful friends he had "in the deep south", of which he considered North Carolina a part.

After his work with The Duplin Story was complete, he returned to England where he directed and played in "Stalag 17."

Sam, a native of Mount Olive, left England and returned to the United States and in turn LaGrange, where he became Editor of The Weekly Gazette on January 18, 1954.

It was while he was serving as Editor of The Gazette that he was first overtaken by the dreaded disease. At first, it was thought it was a minor infection of the right leg, but he grew progressively worse after injuring the leg in September last year. It was in October that he went to Lenoir Memorial Hospital and later transferred to Duke Hospital where his sickness was pronounced leukemia.

For a period it appeared he was getting better and he returned to Mount Olive to live with a relative, Walter T. Cherry.

In March of this year, he again

SAM BYRD

was forced to return to Duke Hospital where he remained until his death Monday.

By his side was his wife, the former Patricia Bolan, of England. "Pat", as she was known to her friends, stayed with him faithfully during his illness, giving him comfort as only a wife can do.

Sam, who received his schooling in Florida, had a lustrous career as an actor on Broadway, in New York City.

For 1,000 consecutive performances, he played Duke Lester, "that" (Continued on Back)