

Duplin Times

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

PROGRESS SENTINEL

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Son Of A Gun

By Joe Lanier

The County Commissioners put into motion a couple of good items in their Monday meeting. One that I am sure is good is that the County will not sell my name and address to some commercial concern that will sell it time and time again, and fill my mailbox with junk mail. They voted unanimously not to sell Duplin County's tax list names from the computer. The motion was made by Hoffer and seconded by Bill Costin. The other item was that they have finally decided to hire a Recreation Director -- a move that barely made it through. The motion was made by Bill Costin to hire a Recreation Director, but it appeared no second was coming. Finally, after much discussion, Jiggs Fussell seconded the motion after "a trial period of two years" was added. On the vote, Costin and Fussell voted for, Hoffer and Kelly against. Albertson broke the tie by voting for. Thus a Recreation Director will be hired at a salary of \$10,500 a year. Now, in his opinion, this is a good move providing the new Recreation Director will run a program for all ages. But if he or she simply runs the existing programs, it will be a failure. Not all jobs are as simple as they may first appear. Case in point is painting a large nitrogen tank. Now, I have always believed that to grow, one needs to try something different occasionally. To tackle a job he has never done before. A while back, a fellow asked me if I would paint a large nitrogen tank. I looked it over and it looked simple enough, so I gave him a price and agreed. And I am now at a point where I am debating writing a book entitled "All You Wanted To Know About Painting A Large Tank And Were Afraid To Ask". Have I had problems? Son-of-a-gun. The tank looked to me not to be any larger than an average room. This being the case, a couple of gallons of paint would do the job. Was I ever more wrong? I have put 6 gallons of paint on that sucker. You can see my cost figure is shot up while my labor figure zipped ever downward, and is rolling around in the bottom of a paint can like a marble. But first off, I went to a paint dealer and asked about the type of paint. He suggested some off-brand something, so I told him to order it. Four months later, it still has not come, and I am running around trying to avoid the fellow who wanted the tank painted. This special paint, I think I am going to have to pay for when it comes, whether or not I use it, so I wait and wait. I think that during this wait, the tank grew larger. Finally I used a different paint. So far as I know, the paint is still enroute. I don't know where it was coming from, but it has been enroute

four months. Now, the base coat I was told to use by the expert was yellow. One coat of white will not cover yellow. More labor, more paint. Well, it looks like I am finally going to get the tank painted, so I start on the third coat. The weather changed and the tank is half full of liquid, thus it is sweating. Can't paint but half the tank, so I think I will paint half one day and half the next. Maybe it will not be sweating. But, as I am standing on a stepladder, a school bus comes by. Some kid waves, so I turn to my right and wave. At that exact instant the stepladder fell to the left. Next thing I know, I am laying on the ground. Son-of-a-Gun. I think to myself that I must have broken my ribs. My side sure hurts where I fell on that ladder. Almost at the same time, I thought, "Get up and start painting like nothing is wrong, cause everyone of those kids on the schoolbus is looking right at me." They all looked like elementary school students. Maybe they will think I always act all a ladder like this. If I jump up and start painting, Son-of-a-Gun, I got white shoes, and I am looking back toward the bus, and I was right. Everyone of those kids was looking at the bus windows at me. Not a soul was looking out the other side of the bus. Trying to cheer myself up, and at the same time trying to hide my hurt and embarrassment, I think, well, those kids may not have learned anything at school today, but on the way home they learned how to get off a ladder quick. I decided I wasn't hurt too bad, so I continued painting, after going behind the tank and brushing myself off. That night I was a little sore, and as I showered, all the injury I could see was the imprint of the ladderleg on my side toward my chest. Next morning I could hardly get off the bed. Son-of-a-gun, was I sore. I took another look at my injury, and I looked like one of those rock singers who paint themselves. I was half black and half white. So I have made up my mind. Never wave while standing on a ladder. Never say you will paint something unless you have the paint. Never estimate how large something is. Measure it. And, by the way, at this writing, I still have half that tank to paint. Wish me luck. I had planned to write some type of Christmas story today, and mailed off a letter to Santa Claus to get some exclusive news about the old seat, but my mailman, Nathan Costin, brought the letter back to me. I don't know why, unless I forgot the zip code on it. So I will just wish you a Merry Christmas, with the belief your joys this Christmas will be excelled only by the first Christmas and the Birth of Christ.

National Spinning Announces Expansion Of Duplin County Facility

Bob Williams, Plant Manager of National Spinning's Beulaville operation, announced his company's plans for expansion of the Beulaville plant. Williams stated, "The expansion represents an investment of over 2.5 million dollars, and will allow us to double our manufacturing floor space. Construction on the 5,000

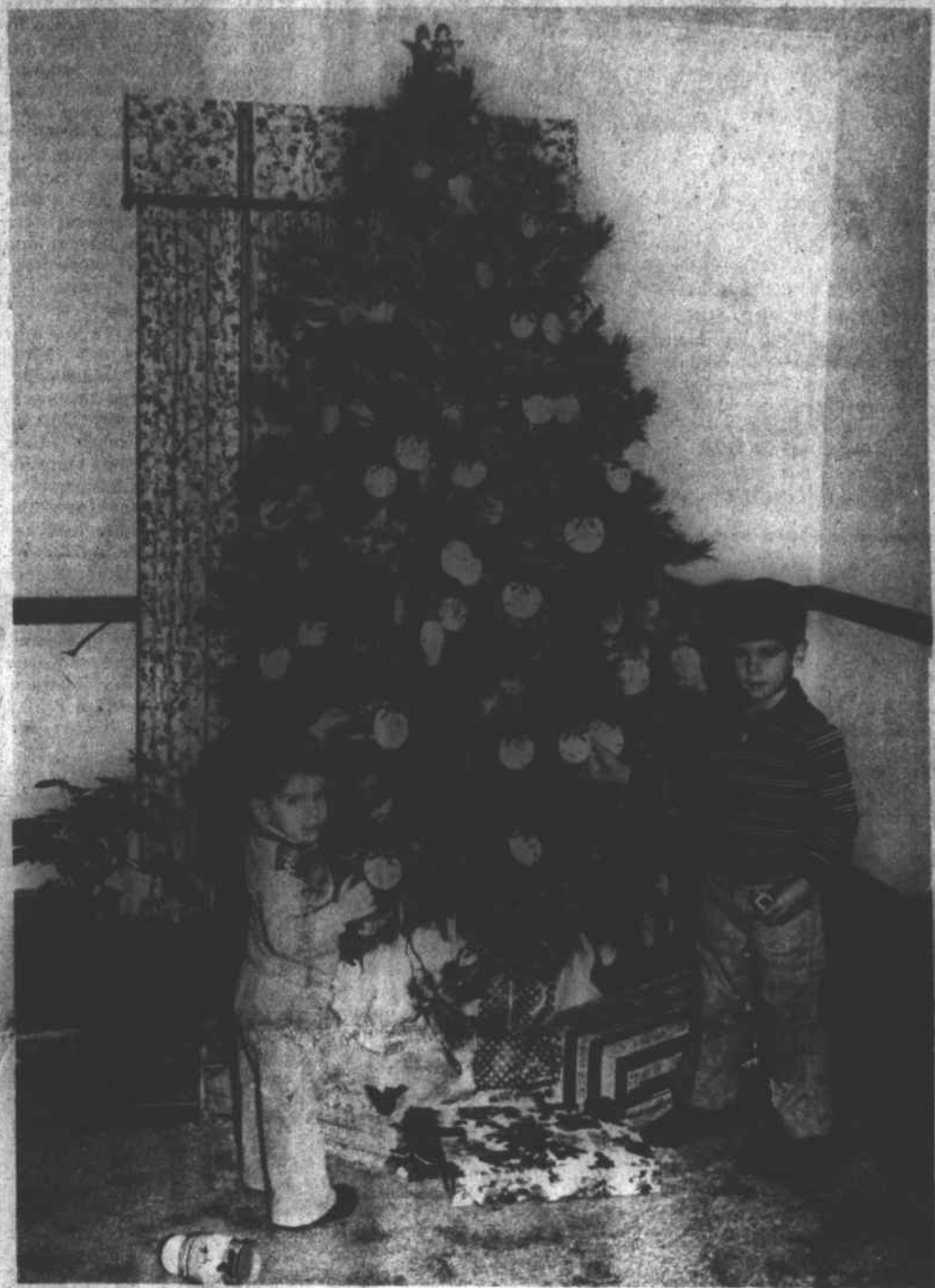
square foot addition will begin immediately and should be in full operation by July, 1978. The expansion of our facility and equipment will represent an additional 70 jobs for our Beulaville plant. Hiring for these new jobs will begin in January, 1978." Williams expressed his company's appreciation for the

support and assistance given to National Spinning by Duplin County and in particular the people of Beulaville. The Beulaville operation for National Spinning is an industry leader in the production of open-end spun yarns used primarily in the men's half hose and high fashion outer wear markets.

Merry Christmas

Home is where hearts are... especially during Christmas. Our hope is that every home is filled with the warmth of the true Christmas spirit. Many thanks to everyone.

Duplin Times Staff



SAND DOLLAR TREE - Dan and Ross Brinson, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Doc Brinson of Kenansville, show off their unusual Christmas tree decorated with over three hundred sand dollars. The sand dollars were tied with red bows and hung on the tree. The Brinsons collected the sand dollars this summer at Topsail Beach.

Court Schedule Changed

John A. Johnson, Clerk of Superior Court, announced on Monday that the District Criminal Term of Court set for the week of January 9th has been cancelled. All persons cited to the District Criminal Court for the days of January 9 through January 13 are advised NOT to appear on those days. The new Court date for all those cited during the week of January 9th will be the week of January 23rd. The new date will be the same day of the week as was set for the January 9th term. The cancellation of this term of Court is due to the necessity of using the Court Room for a needed term of Superior Criminal Court.

Road Closed

The N.C. Department of Transportation plans to close a portion of SR 1715 0.2 mile south of Cedar Fork in Duplin County on January 3, 1978. This closing is necessary in order to replace bridge #240 over a branch of Muddy Creek with a pipeline. It is estimated that SR 1715 will re-open to traffic at this point within 4 weeks after the above closing date. No detour will be erected, but proper signing and barricades will be erected in advance and at the work site, according to T.W. Funderburk.

Open House

The Staff of the Waccamaw Bank of Kenansville invites everyone to come by Friday afternoon, December 23rd, from three to six p.m., when they will be holding their annual Christmas Open House.



MAKES DONATION - Pictured above is Grady Mercer as he presents a check of \$200 to Mrs. Millie L. Brown for the Duplin County Foster Children's Christmas Drive. It is contributions from many citizens of the county that make the children have a joyful Christmas. Any donations may be sent to the Duplin County Department of Social Services, P.O. Box 439, Kenansville, N.C. 28349.

Duplin County Board Of Commissioners Adopts Resolution Forbidding Sale Of Tax List

The Duplin County Board of Commissioners Monday unanimously adopted a resolution barring sale of the county's tax list for commercial purposes. The list will not be made available to businesses seeking to purchase it for use in sending out advertising materials. The Commissioners also authorized the establishment of a permanent advisory position, his first tie-breaking vote in favor of the project. Costin and Fussell voted for the position, and Hoffer and Kelly against it. The position was authorized for two years on a trial basis. County Extension Chairman Vernon Reynolds endorsed the annual county 4-H Awards Dinner will be held January 26th at The Country Square. The Board also approved a set of guidelines for purchase of equipment to be used by the departments can use equipment interchangeably. This way, when more than one department is called to a fire, each can help the other. Hiram Brinson, Civil Defense Coordinator, presented the standards to the Board on behalf of the County Fire Department Association, which prepared them. The Board is agreed to declare January "Jaws of Life Month" at the request of the County Rescue Squad Association, which is attempting to raise \$5,000 next month to purchase the equipment used for prying smashed motor vehicles apart to rescue passengers trapped in them. It was also noted that at least three State Highway Department signs indicating distances have the names of towns in the county misspelled. One such sign spells Teachey as "Teashy"; another has Faison spelled "Fason"; and a third has Beulaville spelled "Beulaville". The Board also approved a contract with Dyneteria of Dunn to supply 170 meals a day at \$1.46 per meal for 250. It approved in principle the request of National Spinning Co. to the County Industrial Bond Commission for permission to make a loan not exceeding \$4 million for expansion of its Beulaville plant. The company plans to add 51,200 square feet of floor space to the present 69,000 square feet, and increase the plant's capacity from 175,000 pounds to 325,000 pounds of yarn per week. The project would add 70 employees to the payroll. Harry Oswald of Wallace and Harold Kornegay of Albertson were reappointed to the County Development Commission. An affirmative action plan for county employees was also approved.

TRUSTEES VISIT WITH GOVERNOR HUNT - Members of the Mount Olive College Board of Trustees from Duplin County met with N.C. Governor James B. Hunt, Jr., during his recent visit to the Mount Olive campus. Trustees present from Duplin included: (from left) James B. Hunt, Sr., Chairman of the Board; Arthur Kennedy from Beulaville; Governor Hunt; and Dr. Herry Kornegay of Calypso. Governor Hunt was on campus in observance of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the first Free Will Baptist Church in North Carolina (Photo by Kraft)

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