



Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

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## Son Of A Gun

By Joe Lanier

The "leave-them-lay" law will be going into effect in July. I must say I have mixed emotions about it. This is the law that says if a drunk is not breaking a law, leave him be. . . Don't arrest him (or her) for being drunk. I am sure we have all seen TV scenes of the drunks lying in doorways and alleys in large cities. . . Wino Alley it is often called. The once-called drunkard is now considered to be medically ill and to put this person in jail is now considered demeaning his character and violating his rights. I do not wish to argue the point. . . Be it right or wrong, I do know that when I was partaking of the liquid spirits and overindulged, I was drunk. . . and was not sick until the next morning. . . One bright morning while hungover, I decided it was foolish for me to pay someone to make me feel that bad, so I called a halt to it. . . I understand a couple of brewers had to lay off some workers after I did stop. . . But I wonder, medically ill or whatever, wouldn't it be better to pick up these poor souls and put them in a dry warm jail than to leave them lay in the alleys, mope, ditch along the road, or where-ever. . . Also, in this new law, if it is permissible to take the drunks home. . . Here again, would not this just cause home problems, or give him or her a chance to get a few more dollars and continue their drinking by simply leaving again? . . . Somehow, it seems to me, we are caring less when we leave them lay. . . On the other hand, I suppose we all choose what we want to do; thus, as long as we are not harming anyone else, I guess we should be allowed to do it. . . Along those same lines, would not pornography be OK? . . . No one shakes you look. . . What about prostitution? . . . Both parties are willing and no one is forcing anyone. . . Sounds to Joe like someone is still trying to create Utopia, which is an impossible dream. . .

I was in Rose Hill a week or so ago and was at Fredericks Furniture Store. When I walked in, Jack Frederick said, "My goodness, I have given that chair to the wrong fellow." . . "What are you talking about?" I asked. . . He said that a lady had come into his store earlier that day and bought a chair saying her husband would pick it up later. . . He said he asked her how he would know her husband from anyone else, and she said, "He is the ugliest man in Duplin County." . . "About

an hour ago a fellow came who I thought was the ugliest man I had ever seen, so I gave him the chair," said Jack. . . "When you came in I decided I must have given it to the wrong man." . .

I have had some unpraiseworthy remarks about the Board of Education and the School Administration in Son-of-a-Gun, and quite frankly I think they need some shaking up once in awhile. . . After all, it was the politicians who saw cause to worry about the apparently uneducated graduate coming out of the school systems. . . not the administration. . . While in a conversation about some students who had graduated but could neither read nor write, the memory of an incident that happened to me in the third grade caused me to wonder if I should be criticizing. . . When I began school in Warsaw, I was called by my initials, J.T., and I signed all my papers J.T. . . Then one day the teacher said everyone was to sign their full name on the papers. . . Son-of-a-gun. . . There I was in the third grade and didn't know how to spell my name. . . My first name, Joe, was easy enough, but I had never heard of spelling my last name — Lanier. . . But my middle name, Taylor, I had no idea how to spell. . . Fortunately, Martha Taylor was sitting in front of me, so I copied her paper to spell my middle name. . . I was too embarrassed to tell the teacher, and I thought for sure she was going to tell me that T-A-Y-L-O-R was a last name, and middle names were spelled differently. . . So convinced was I that I had spelled it wrong, the first thing I asked my mom when I got off the school bus that afternoon was how to spell Taylor. . . And she spelled it T-A-Y-L-O-R. . . I told her that was wrong — that was the way to spell a last name. . . I knew because I had seen it on Martha Taylor's paper. . .

I saw a bill laying on the table unopened at our home, and as my wife keeps up with the finances, I paid little attention to it. . . But it stayed there two days, unopened. Curiosity finally got the best of me, so I opened it. It was about what I had expected. . . A little while later, Donna came in and noticed I had opened the bill and said, "Now why did you open that bill? My budget was running a little short and I didn't want to pay it until next week. As long as it was unopened, I could pretend I hadn't received it yet." . . Son-of-a-Gun. . .

## County Attorney Wells Submits Resignation Reynolds Retires As Extension Chairman



Vernon H. Reynolds, Agricultural Extension Chairman, announced Monday he will retire effective June 30. Reynolds, Extension Agent and Chairman in the County for 31 years, made the announcement in a letter he read to the Board of Commissioners. "It's been gratifying to see the tremendous growth of agriculture, community development, and 4-H programs in the county during these 31 years," Reynolds said. Commissioner Arias Albertson, Chairman of the Board, commented, "We accept this regretfully. You've done an out-

standing job, and we're glad you've been a part of Duplin County." All five Commissioners, Albertson, D.J. Fussell, W.J. Costin, J.W. Hoffer and Emmett E. Kelly expressed their appreciation of Reynolds' work in the county. Reynolds said he plans to continue living in Duplin after retiring. He succeeded Lacy Weeks as County Agent (the title of Extension Chairman was created later) when Weeks joined Tobacco Associates as that organization's first field representative. Dr. W.G. Andrews, Eastern District Extension Chairman, explained the procedure to be followed in securing a new Chairman of the Agricultural Extension Service for Duplin County. The job will be advertised at the State level for thirty days. All eligible applicants will be interviewed and screened prior to appearing before the Board of Commissioners. Dr. Chester Black, Assistant Director, NCSU, will receive all applications. Costin made a motion, which carried unanimously, to adopt a resolution commending Reynolds for his years of service and an outstanding performance of duties, along with a certificate of recognition and commendation.

Mrs. Winnie Wells, County Attorney, submitted her resignation as County Attorney effective May 30. Her reason for leaving is to accept another position which may be in conflict with her present position. The Duplin County Board of Commissioners met in regular session in the Agricultural Extension Auditorium in Kenansville Monday. Bids were opened at 10 a.m. on the sale of Adelaide Sellers, Hrs. property and are tabulated as follows: J.P. Matthews, Rose Hill, \$850 with a ten percent bid check received; David C. Hall, Sr., Teachey, \$1,000 with a ten percent bid check received. The Board accepted the high bid of Hall in the amount of \$1,000. The Financing Statement for Gregory Poole Equipment Co., on the Sanitary Landfill equipment was made a part of the minutes. The Public Hearing on the proposed use of Revenue Sharing was opened at 10:30 a.m. No one appeared for the hearing. Billy Ison and J.C. Nethercutt, State Highway Department representatives, met with the Board to discuss county roads. The Board adopted a resolution to add to the system Loop Road 9 miles northwest of Beulaville. Floyd Kennedy appeared

before the Board to discuss the paving of SR 1719. Motion was made by Kelly and seconded by Fussell, and carried unanimously, to write a letter to Thomas Bradshaw, Department of Transportation, requesting him to reply in writing stating what part the Duplin Commissioners have in determining secondary road construction priorities. Jim Rusher, Industrial Developer, met with the Board to discuss the activities of his office. A motion carried to approve the signing of an EDA grant application for technical assistance. George Adams, Regional Mental Health Consultant; Pat Webb, Community Services Representative; and Dr. E.J. Raman, Mental Health Director, appeared to discuss area mental health programs and new legislation mandating these programs. Webb stated there will be a meeting of the Standards Committee May 19 in Raleigh for the purpose of bringing a group together from Sampson, Yadkin, Surry and Duplin Counties on how to implement the new law. Hiram Brinson, Sheriff T.E. Revelle and Dr. E.J. Raman met with the Board to discuss the placing of mental health personnel on call for emergency

services and on a fee basis while serving in this capacity, which would require no overtime pay. Brinson stated he felt that as a Supervisor, he should be eligible to receive the same consideration. Revelle stated he did not feel there was any dissension in his office over the matter. After much discussion, no action was taken. Brinson informed the Board that the grant for a school warning system has been approved and is being installed. The Board approved the position of Program Coordinator, to assist the Personnel Director in administering the CETA program. Upon receipt of approval of administrative funds from the Division of Community Employment, the position will be advertised. No county funds will be used.

## Disaster Drill Coming Up Within Next 30 Days

A disaster drill will be held within the next thirty days in Duplin County, according to Emergency Services Director Hiram Brinson. "This will be a practice session and citizens are alerted not to become alarmed," Brinson said. "The disaster drill will operate under the code name 'Code D Drill' and will involve rescue squads, fire departments and hospital personnel."

The event will take place some time between noon and 7 a.m. and will involve victims who have been made up to represent various type injuries. Brinson added, "Citizens are asked to not become alarmed upon seeing such victims or at the activity of the rescue squads and fire departments. Also, please do not call or go to the hospital. The operation is to test skills and give experience in disaster situations," Brinson pointed out.

## Elizabeth Grant Appointed New Manager For Employment Security Commission Area Offices

Elizabeth H. Grant of Kenansville has been appointed as the new manager for the North Carolina Employment Security Commission Area Offices which include Mount Olive, Clinton, Kenansville and the mobile office in Faison. Mrs. Grant will supervise the Job Service offices which serve the residents of Duplin, Sampson and Southern Wayne Counties. Mrs. Grant has been employed by the N.C. Employment Security Commission approximately 10 years, having served previously in the Wilmington office, also as manager over Duplin and Sampson counties, in the Kinston office, and as supervisor-in-charge of the Kenansville office. Prior to work with the state



agency, Mrs. Grant taught in the new Hanover schools and worked in personnel with private industry and with the federal government. She received her education at Georgia State in Milledgeville, Ga., and at Auburn University in Alabama. Mrs. Grant is a native of Georgia and still has her Georgia accent. She claims that her husband brought her to North Carolina, but that she has tried to lose her accent, because she has lived in the state for almost 25 years and considers herself a true Tarheel. When anyone comments on her ac-

cent, she very quickly tells them to "learn to speak Georgia. It is in style." Her husband, William L. Grant, is well-known in this area in the poultry industry and he is employed by FCX working out of Wallace. They have two children, Bubba, who is a senior at ECU, and Beth (Mrs. Henry Deas) who lives in Los Angeles. Beth and her husband are actors. She is currently filming "J.B. and the Bear" for television. Her current movie will be shown as a TV Movie of the Week in August. Henry has recently finished a movie in Italy titled "Star Crash." When asked about grandchildren, Mrs. Grant stated that even though she doesn't have any, she claims several including Susanne Hall of Turkey and Carolyn and Tom Toal of Wallace. Always active in civic organizations, Mrs. Grant has worked with the Women's Club on local, district and state level. She has served on the State board of the N.C. Federation of Women's Clubs and also as State Consumer Chairman and Federation Chairman of Caswell Training Center. She has served as first vice-president of the N.C. Sorosis and N.C. Junior Sorosis of Wilmington. She was a board member of the Charlotte Junior Women's Club and first vice president of the Cape Fear Garden Club. In addition, she has served on the board of the Y.W.C.A. and the Girls' Club in Wilmington. Other civic work

has been in volunteer work with cancer and orthopedic clinics in Wilmington, P.T.A. and Scouting. She has been a member-at-large of Altrusa International, an executive business women's club, and a member of the Business and Professional Women's Club of Warsaw. She belongs to the Intergency Council in Duplin County and the Duplin Art Guild. As a hobby she enjoys amateur writing and painting. She and her family belong to Grove Presbyterian Church in Kenansville. Mrs. Grant stated that she has a great deal of enthusiasm about continuing the good programs already in progress through the agency offices in Mount Olive, Kenansville and

Clinton and wants to improve services in any way possible to the growers, industrial employers and area citizens. She requests citizen participation in all of the Job Service programs. She will be visiting employers in the area and invites everyone to call on her in the Mount Olive office if she can be of service to them.



## Farmers Pass Referendums

Beef, pork and corn producers passed their respective referendums on April 26. Eighty-one percent of beef producers in the state voted in favor of the proposed assessment of 20 cents per head sold. In Duplin, the vote was 116 for and 31 against. Pork producers voted 83 percent in favor of going to 10 cents assessment on slaughter pigs,

and 5 cents on feeder pigs. This money will be used by the N.C. Pork Producers Association for promotion, research and general support of the swine industry. Duplin's vote was 170 for and 46 against. Corn producers state-wide voted 82 percent in favor of a new assessment of 1/4 cent per bushel of corn sold to be used for promotion, research and support of the corn industry. In Duplin, the vote was 224 for, and 88 against.

**BUDDY POPPY WEEK** - WHEREAS: the annual sale of Buddy Poppies by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States has been officially recognized and endorsed by governmental leaders since 1922; and WHEREAS: V.F.W. Buddy Poppies are assembled by disabled veterans, and the proceeds of this worthy fund-raising campaign are used exclusively for the benefit of disabled and needy veterans, and the widows and orphans of deceased veterans, and WHEREAS: The basic purpose of the annual sale of Buddy Poppies by the Veterans of Foreign Wars is eloquently reflected in the desire to "Honor the Dead by Helping the Living"; therefore I, Douglas Judge, Mayor of the city of Kenansville do hereby proclaim the week of May

27 as "Buddy Poppy Week" for Duplin Post 10345, and urge the citizens of this community to recognize the merits of this cause by contributing generously to its support through the purchase of Buddy Poppies on the day set aside for the distribution of these symbols of appreciation for the sacrifices of our honored dead. I urge all patriotic citizens to wear a Buddy Poppy as mute evidence of our gratitude to the men of this country who have risked their lives in defense of the freedoms which we continue to enjoy as American citizens. Signed: Douglas Judge, Mayor of Kenansville. Pictured (L to R): C.A. Spivey, Dept. Historian; Douglas Judge, Mayor of Kenansville; and William Wade Jones, Commander of Post 10345.

**BOYS RECEIVE CHECKS FROM NATIONAL SPINNING** - (L to R) Arias Albertson, Plant Manager, receives checks from Dick August, Plant Executive of Treadway Council, and Bob Swain, Agricultural Extension Service.

Thomas of Coastal Carolina Girl Scout Council, as she looks over check given on behalf of the Girl Scouts from Bob Williams, Plant Manager of National Spinning in Beaufort.