

LIBERTY CART

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

PROGRESS SENTINEL

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Scenes From Opening Night Of The Liberty Cart

Senator Harold Richardson, left, to whom the 1978 drama is dedicated.

The Opening Night Crowd

Opening Night...

By Tammy Howard

A crowd of approximately 1,000 people attended the opening night of THE LIBERTY CART Thursday. Festivities began with a barbecue supper in the gym. Picnic tables were placed behind the bands courts to accommodate the people. Hubert Blanton of Beaufort provided the barbecue.

The barbecue was followed by the James Gang of Beaufort who provided pre-show entertainment in the amphitheatre. The group entertained the audience with easy-listening ballads.

Several changes were made in the 1978 production of THE LIBERTY CART. The play, directed from last year, had several changes made and one new scene. The original scenes were written by the late James H. Johnson. The new scenes were written by the author of the play, James H. Johnson.

recorded tapes.

The amphitheatre has changed, also. The flowers provided by the Kenansville Beautification Committee enhance the natural setting. The lobby's walls display posters of scenic North Carolina, and pictures from the original Duplin Story. A stand with pamphlets of other outdoor dramas and tourist attractions has been added to the lobby.

There was one more notable change in THE LIBERTY CART — people. Last year only fifty-four people attended opening night. As I sat in the amphitheatre and looked around at the approximately 1,000 people, I was surprised. For the past two years, THE LIBERTY CART has been in debt due to lack of community support and proper publicity management. For the first time, it appears THE LIBERTY CART may be a success. I believe community support is the key to its success.

Public Urged To Attend Limestone-Muddy Creeks Watershed Meeting July 24th

According to Kenneth Futreal, Soil Conservationist for Duplin County, the fate of the Limestone-Muddy Creeks Watershed project could be decided when four alternate solutions are presented at a public meeting on Monday, July 24th at 8 p.m. in the Beaufort National Guard Armory.

Limestone-Muddy Creeks Watershed is located in Duplin County in the southeastern section of the coastal plains of North Carolina. It encompasses 72,000 acres. The watershed drains into the Northeast Cape Fear River. The population of the watershed is estimated to be about 8,000 with approximately half farm and half non-farm. Beaufort, the only incorporated town in the watershed, has a population of about 1,200.

These problems, as identified by the local residents through participation, are: (1) reduce flood damage and business damages within the watershed; (2) reduce erosion on critical sediment producing areas; (3) adequately protect or treat crop and pasture land; (4) provide water-based recreation for county residents; (5) promote access to fishing streams; and (6) enhance food supply and habitat for wildlife.

The sponsors of the project are: the Duplin Soil and Water Conservation District; the Duplin County Board of Commissioners; and the Watershed Improvement Commission.

The alternate solutions are:

1. No action. Surveys indicated drainage will worsen if no action is taken; productivity of fields and forests will decrease with poorer drainage.

2. This alternative provides the best benefit-cost ratio. Benefits of \$1.77 would accrue for each \$1 of cost, according to the report. No. 2 is the alternative favored by the district supervisors, Futreal indicated.

The favored alternate includes an accelerated land treatment program consisting of 350 acres of wildlife habitat development, 800,000 feet of surface and sub-surface drainage, erosion protection of 1,000 acres of crop and pastureland, treatment measures on 20,000 acres of crop and pasturelands, and control work on 95 acres of critically eroding land.

Also included in the plans are 17.2 miles of channel excavation

on Limestone Creek and 46.5 miles on Muddy Creek. A pilot channel would be developed through clearing and snagging work on 44.1 miles of channel. The pilot channel would have a six-foot bottom width, 1.5 feet deeper than the present grade. A fish hole, 50 feet long, would be established every 800 feet. These would be 2.5 feet deeper than the channel and with a 10-foot bottom width. The alternate provides 290 holes. Existing holes would be used where possible. Access points with parking areas would be established at nine locations.

A 75-acre lake with 75 acres of recreational area would be provided.

The alternate would allow an

estimated 7,000 acres of woodland to be returned to crop production. Forest lands would increase timber production through improved drainage.

The survey indicates the project could generate average annual financial benefits of \$452,000 with a net benefit of \$196,550 annually.

Futreal added that there are intangible benefits as well, such as decreased cost of road maintenance in the area and improved septic tank operation at the rural homesteads.

3. This alternate would provide the lake and recreational area but would provide no channel work or clearing and snagging. The benefit cost ratio

would be 1.23 to one with the average annual net benefit estimated at \$20,000. Alternate No. 3 would cost \$1,259,000.

4.) This alternate would be the costliest at \$5,416,000 and would provide the poorest benefit-cost ratio of 1.21 to one.

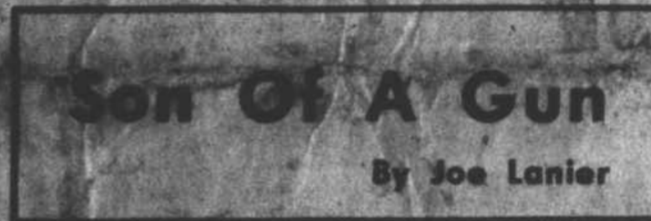
The fourth alternate would provide 800,000 feet of surface and sub-surface drainage, erosion protection on 1,000 acres of crop and pastureland, treatment measures of 20,000 acres of crop and pastureland, erosion control on 95 acres of critically eroding land, 350 acres of wildlife habitat, 77.9 miles of channel excavation on Limestone Creek and 90.9 miles on Muddy Creek. It would also provide for the lake

and recreational area.

"The meeting will give the public an opportunity to review the alternatives and say what they think about it," commented Futreal.

"After the public approves one of the alternate solutions," continued Futreal, "it will go to all agencies that have been involved with the Watershed for review. This process will take about a year, after which, if everything goes all right, it will go to Congress for funding."

The watershed project actually began in the 1950's, but did not have the legal organization until the 1969 county-wide watershed vote, which passed by a 78% vote.



Son Of A Gun

By Joe Lanier

Some things, according to the odds makers, are a million to one. But these million to one odds do happen. An example.

North Carolina Highway Patrolman D.W. Faircloth aimed his radar at two autos Sunday. One behind the other, traveling on Highway 24 between Kenansville and Beaufort. One was a Ford. One was an Opel. One had a South Carolina license tag. One had a Hawaii license tag. The drivers of the autos did not know one another. Now from here on the odds begin to grow larger and larger. Both were speeding 76 MPH, one behind the other. Both drivers were black. Both drivers were Marines. Both drivers were born in 1952. The same month — August. The same day — the 20th. And get this. Both were named Ish Richardson. I wonder what the odds are that two strangers with the same names, same birth dates, same race and same profession would be following one another on Duplin County roads and both going 76 MPH. I bet those odds get into the humpteens.

On the hottest day of last week, my Sprint would not crank. I turned the key, but it would do nothing. It has one of those side-mount batteries that corrode bad. I knew the battery was fairly new and had plenty of power (the last time I had driven it a week or so before). So I figured that if I cleaned the terminals, it would probably crank. In the hot sun I cleaned for about 45 minutes, skinning my hand in the process. When I tried it, it still would not do anything. So I said the heck with it and loaded my sights in the Pacer and off I went. But, tired, disgusted and with a sore hand. Late that afternoon I went to the Sprint to get my wrenches and just happened to look at the gear level. It was in "drive". I pushed it up in "park," turned the key and it cranked right up. All that work in the hot sun for nothing.

Donna has had some eye trouble, and Dr. Dan Robinson, Warren's new eye doctor, sent her to Wilmington to have some minor eye surgery. Before we got to the doctor's office, Donna said we were not a

of onions. I said, "Donna, you don't want to go to see the doctor with onion on your breath." She said, "Oh, yes I do. When he hurts me, I will blow my breath in his face and he will stop. I wish I had some garlic." When she came out of the office I asked her if he hurt her and she said, "I should say so. He pulled my eyelid over my head." Son-of-a-Gun....

Faison Gets Water Project Grant

The Secretary of Human Resources Dr. Sarah Morrow and Governor Jim Hunt announced that State grants of nearly \$8 million went to 42 local governments across the State to assist in financing construction of water supply projects.

This is the second group of grants made under the N.C. Clean Water Bond Act of 1977, and the 12th such awards for water supply projects since the beginning of the State grant program pursuant to the Act of 1971.

Kenansville Receives Recreation Grant

The North Carolina State Economic Opportunity Office has awarded a Summer Youth Recreation Program grant in the amount of \$4,612 to the Town of Kenansville, according to Woody Brinson, Kenansville Town Administrator. The Town received notice of the award on Tuesday, July 11th, in a letter from John W. Edwards, Director of the State Economic Opportunity Office.

This grant will enable the Kenansville Recreation Program to purchase needed additional equipment and

supplies which will provide recreational opportunities, such as playground activities, organized games, and arts and crafts. Also to be funded through the program will be several out-of-town field trips to nearby attractions. Administrative support costs and recreation staff salaries will also be funded through the grant, according to Brinson.

Grants Awarded To Duplin Arts

The County has been awarded a \$5,000 grant for administrative expenses of the Duplin County Arts Council, Inc. by the N.C. Arts Council and the National Endowment for the Arts in Washington, D.C., a federal agency. The DCAC also received \$250 for programming costs for the new Duplin Art Guild, an organization of local visual artists.

Other grants were among 1,000 others totaling \$27,795 awarded to organizations in the southeast section of the state at the council's recent board meeting.

Road Funds Allotted

The North Carolina Department of Transportation allocation of funds, 1978-79 for Duplin County as of July 14, 1978 is \$292,261 for 151.30 unpaved mileage.



ATTENDED ELECTRIC CONGRESS - Duplin County 4-H members Dorothy Hines of Route 2, Warren, and Ronald Hines of Route 1, Warsaw, were delegates to the State 4-H Public Congress, which was held at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. (Left to right) Dorothy Hines, Ronald Hines, and Owen Hines, Warren, accompanied the delegates.