

Times

Straight from the Shoulder — Right from the Heart of Duplin

PROGRESS SENTINEL

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Son Of A Gun

By Joe Lanier

Sling shots, turnips, watermelons, and a \$14,000 propaganda program by the School Board is what you will find in Son-Of-A-Gun this week.

Let's start with the last first, and get into the other ever which way. . . "Unbiased" is one of the words used by Dr. E.L. Boyette, School Board member, when he made a motion to approve a resolution prepared by School Superintendent Charles Yelverton, to hire a "Director of Public Information." That's a fancy title for a promotion person for the School Board. . . Unbiased is a little far-fetched. . . How could anyone believe a person working for the School Board, and hired to write articles about and related to the school, could be unbiased toward the school? . . . After all, his (or her) job depends on the School Board. . . The purpose of the position is the first place is to advise the parents of programs the administration and the School Board want the parents and students to participate in. . . Dr. Boyette may believe these articles will not be slanted in favor of the thinking of the administration and the School Board. . . I hope those newspapers and radio stations — will identify it as coming from the School Board so that those reading or hearing it will not think it is an article by the paper or radio station. . .

The program cost is, or will be, \$14,000 for the first year, according to the resolution. . . Half, or \$7,000, will come from the Duplin County Taxpayers directly, and the other \$7,000 will come from then indirectly by way of a Federal program. The \$14,000 will be used for salary and travel. . . One of those unbiased reports from the School Board earlier this year said there was no extra money. . . Yet, here is a brand new program that this year will take from the pockets of the Duplin County taxpayers \$7,000. . . By the way, those voting for approval of the new position were Dr. Boyette and Fred Rhodes. . . Jimmy Strickland was chairman and did not vote, but he could have. . . Graham Phillips voted against it. . . Russell Brock was not there. . .

Did you know a sling (or slung) shot was considered a concealed weapon if it were hidden in your pocket? . . . Sgt. Pridden of the Highway Patrol said it was. . . As a child, I never was able to hit what I was

aiming at with one of those things. . . And, in my hands, I guess it might have been considered a dangerous weapon — but not in the same sense as it was in young David's. . . Pridden was telling me of a fellow being able to shoot and hit a half dollar thrown up in the air. . . And Glenn Jernigan says there is a sling shot sharpshooter in Faison. . . Says he can hit anything. . . Perhaps someone should arrange a sling shot sharpshooting contest. . . I am going to look up this sharpshooter in Faison. . .

A couple of fellows lived in Warsaw several years who were famous for their tall tales. . . One of these characters lived in a house on a busy street and sold watermelons from his front porch. . . He kept several knotty melons on the porch, and one was a big, long, large melon. . . A 25 cent melon was a high priced melon back then, but one who came to buy a melon would ask about the large one. . . And the fellow would say, "That is my seed melon. . . I can't sell that one." . . After a bit of bargaining the fellow would say, "Well, I'll take it for it, but I had really rather not sell it." . . Usually the person would buy the large melon. . . And as soon as he would carry it off, the fellow would go in the house and bring out another just like it. . .

One day the fellow was at a gas station and was bragging about the size of his turnips. . . He was making an indication with his arms — showing his turnips were extra large — say 4 feet across — when his buddy walked in. . . Those standing around said to his buddy, "Did you hear how large he said his turnips were?" . . . "No, I didn't," he said, leaning up against the ice drink box and propping his cane against the bottle opener. . . "But I will tell you they are large. . . I drove by there the other day and thought it was a new ground. . . and that those turnips were stumps." . . Son-of-a-Gun . . .

EAST DUPLIN YEARBOOKS

The 1978 East Duplin yearbooks that were back-ordered, are now available at the school. They may be picked up between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Education Board To Hire Public Affairs Director

The Board of Education passed a resolution Monday night authorizing the hiring of a public information director for Duplin County Schools.

The resolution called for \$7,000 from the Board's contingency fund, and \$7,000 from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act funds to finance the position.

Dr. E.L. Boyette, of Chinquapin, made the motion saying he believed more feature articles should be done on some of the school system's programs and on parent participation, and that the Board should have control of an unbiased person for such work. Fred Rhodes seconded the motion.

Graham Phillips opposed it, saying, "The people are already on us for overstaffing the administrative office. I am against adding another person here. If we have this money, I would rather see it go into another school."

The Board also received a plan from architects Ballard, McKim & Sawyer of Wilmington to call for bids on the proposed Kenansville Elementary School September 28th. Below is the construction schedule of the KES as presented by the architects.

The Board also approved \$3,660 from the contingency fund to pay the 6% salary increase planned for teacher aides

in kindergarten classes. The state provides \$4,700 in salary for such aides. The county has a scale graduated upward from one to ten years of service, and to maintain its schedule of raises, the added money was required. Superintendent Charles Yelverton pointed out.

In other action, the Board approved a contract for Mount Olive College to play basketball at the North Duplin High School gym for \$1,500 plus \$500 for janitorial services.

The Board tabled a motion by Phillips to meet twice a month,

once on academic matters, and the other on housekeeping.

The Board approved an increase in lunch and breakfast charges to adults to meet the new Federal regulations requiring adults to pay the actual cash equivalent cost of such meals. The lunch charge was raised to 90 cents from 70, and the breakfast charge to 45 cents from the 35-cent price. Students pay 50 cents for elementary and 55 for junior and senior high school. These charges will remain the same.

SCHEDULE FOR KENANSVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

August 14 - Presented to Duplin Board of Education

August 17 - Plans and Specs. to Contractors

September 28 - Receive bids

October 1 - Begin Construction

August 15, 1979 - Complete Construction

Bobby Hasty Dies From Auto Injuries



Rudy Hasty of Warsaw, and Mike Hasty of Washington, N.C., and his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Sany Eva Tyndall of Kenansville.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Athletic Department at James Kenan High School for the Bobby Hasty Memorial Fund.

Robert Vance (Bobby) Hasty, 23, son of Mrs. Hortense Tyndall Hasty of Kenansville, died Monday, August 14th, from injuries received in a one-car accident near Demorest, Georgia, on July 27th.

He was a 1974 graduate of James Kenan High School, and was employed by Hull Poultry Industry of Cornelia, Ga. He was active in sports in high school and was named to the 1973 All Conference Football Team.

A graveside service was held Wednesday at 11 a.m. at Golden Grove Cemetery in Kenansville. Survivors, in addition to his mother, include two brothers,

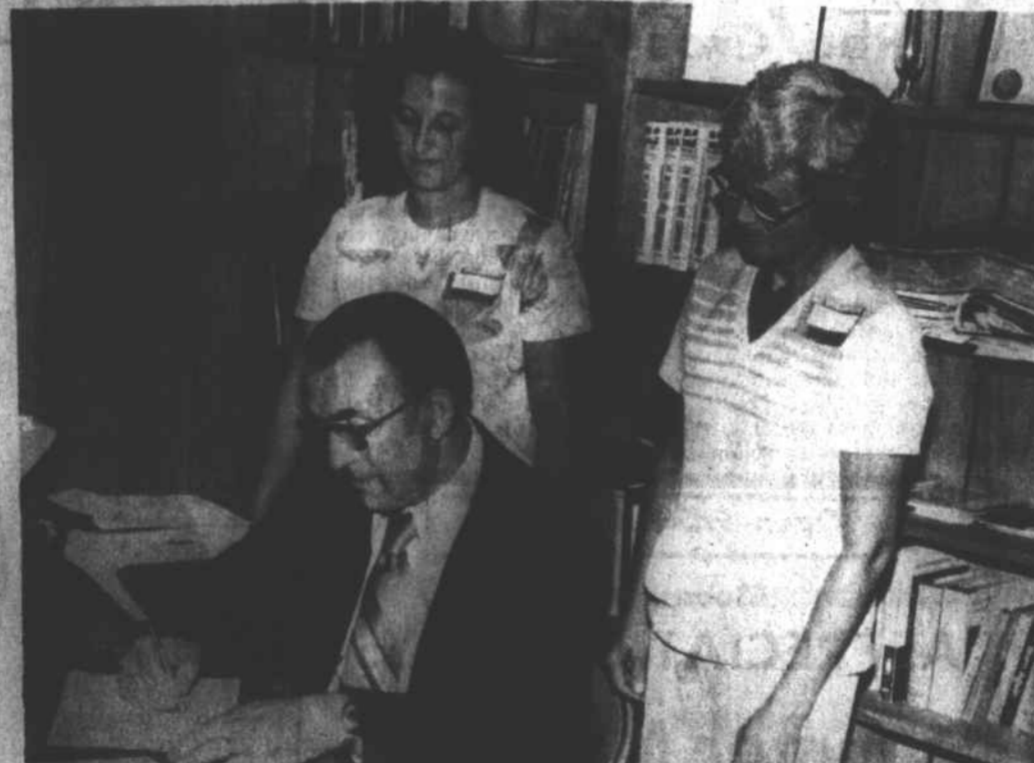
Whitley To Visit Duplin County

Congressman Charlie Whitley announced last Thursday that he will be in Duplin County on Wednesday, August 23rd.

The Congressman will be in Wallace from 9:30-11 a.m. at the Town Hall, and from 3-4:30 p.m. at the Agricultural Building in Kenansville. Persons

having matters they wish to discuss with the Congressman can see him during one of the above times.

Whitley also plans to visit the Wallace Tobacco Market, attend an auction sale, and meet local tobacco farmers.



MAYOR SIGNS PROCLAMATION - Beulaville Mayor Marion Edwards (seated) is shown signing a proclamation designating August as Cystic Fibrosis Month for the Town of Beulaville. Also pictured, standing, (L to R) Barbara

Murray, Cystic Fibrosis Chairman, and Ross Rhodes, Assistant Chairman. The Beulaville drive will conclude with a special program at the East Duplin Fine Arts Building on August 26 at 7:30 p.m.

Tri County EMC To Have Open House

An open house of the new headquarters of Tri-County Electric Membership Corporation at Dudley will be held from 3 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, August 20th.

The new headquarters is located on the east side of U.S. Hwy. 117, just north of Dudley. The 20,800 square foot building contains the Co-op's administration offices, warehouse, and shop facilities. The contract for the project was awarded to Clancey and Theys of Raleigh at \$783,000. Holloway and Reeves of Raleigh were the architects. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Robert S. Holmes, Tri-County

EMC's General Manager, and Walter B. Jones, II, Representative of the Governor's Office, head a delegation to greet REA Administrator David A. Hamil and to welcome Hamil to North Carolina and to Tri-County EMC. Upon arrival at the

Kinston airport, Hamil will meet Holmes and Jones and the other members of the welcoming committee. Then the group will go immediately to the Tri-County EMC headquarters to participate in the open house and building dedication.

Educational Field Day

The Helping Hands Club of Duplin County is sponsoring an educational experience for all young people aged 14-18 on Saturday, August 29th at James Sprunt Institute at 2 p.m. in the Hoffer Building Auditorium.

You are asked to come to meet the representatives from

the surrounding areas to extend your knowledge of higher education and what it can do for you, your families, and your communities.

For further information, contact Faye Bryant, Deborah Hill, Loretta Miller or Verlene Murray.

Fine Arts Society 1978-79 Season

TARHEEL FINE ARTS SOCIETY BEGINNING ITS FIFTEENTH SEASON WITH MOST EXCITING SERIES OF PERFORMANCES YET - Last year's subscribers are being contacted for first opportunity purchase of season tickets. Last year's season was a complete sell-out and interested parties should make early contact with area chairmen responsible for ticket sales. Any remaining tickets will go on sale to the general public September 5. The schedule of performances for the 1978-79 season is: November 8, 1978 - Duke Ellington Orchestra; December 11, 1978 - Boots Randolph; March 9, 1979 - The New Christy Minstrels; and April 10, 1979 - An Evening with Rodgers and Hammerstein.



Duke Ellington Orchestra - November 8

The 1978 year will feature the internationally famous Duke Ellington Orchestra, directed by Mercer Ellington, composer, arranger, and trumpet player. The band library contains all the famous compositions and arrangements, and he has steadily reactivated items in it that had become less familiar through neglect in recent years. His father was so prolific that there was a tendency to emphasize the "new one" at the expense of the past. It is now possible to see his majestic output in some kind of perspective and to restore classics to the prominence they deserve. This, Mercer is systematically doing, and he is also able to spring enlightening surprises by playing compositions written by his father that were never publicly performed. The band's performances have been presented at Wolf Trap in Washington, the Ravinia Festival in Illinois, Robin Hood Dell in Pennsylvania, Duke University in Durham, N.C., and the Steel Pier in Atlantic City. Although Mercer's own individual talents were inevitably overshadowed by those of his father, such creations as "Things Ain't What They Used To Be," "Jumpin' Punks," "Blue Serge," "The Girl In My Dreams," "Moon Mist," and "Broadway Babe" testify to his creative ability as an arranger and a composer.



Boots Randolph - December 11

Homer Louis (nicknamed Boots) Randolph was born into a musical family where everybody played some musical instrument -- just what he played didn't matter. Boots began on the uke, and in grade school switched to the trombone, which he learned to play without the help of music teachers. During high school, Boots switched from slide trombone to the sax. He played in his brother Joe's combo at clubs, lounges, and army camps, and when drafted in 1945, most of his soldiering was done in an Army Band at Camp Kilmer. A magic move was made in 1958 when a tape of Boots' playing "Yakety-Sax" was sent to Chet Atkins, musical director of RCA Victor in Nashville. Atkins liked Boots' style and sound, and hired him for some recording sessions. Boots Randolph is a co-headliner with Masters Festival of Music, has been booked by leading night clubs across the country, has appeared on all major TV shows in the U.S., has given hundreds of personal concerts in the U.S. as well as personal appearances in Japan. His compositions include "Yakety-Sax," "Cacklin' Sax," "Little Big Horn," "Chick in the Rough," and "Simple Simon."

NEW MAGISTRATES SWORN IN - (L to R) James C. Johnson of Kenansville was appointed Magistrate for Duplin County by Judge Henry L. Stevens, III, on August 14, 1978, and was sworn in by John A. Johnson, Clerk of Superior Court,

pictured on the right. The appointment of Johnson to a two-year term gives Duplin a full complement of magistrates according to the statutes.