

Duplin Times

PROGRESS SENTINEL

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MEMBERSHIP DRIVE - The Duplin County Outdoor Drama Society began its annual membership drive last week. The membership fees will be toward the 1980 production of THE LIBERTY CART. Pictured above are Bill Bates, associate director of North Carolina Theatre Arts; Ann Craft,

Photo by Emily Killeto
general chairman of the membership drive; Judy Barringer, executive director of N.C.T.A.; Jimmy Strickland, president of the Duplin Outdoor Drama Society; and Rich Boyd, general manager of THE LIBERTY CART.

Dr. Boyette Re-Elected School Board Chairman

E.L. Boyette of Chinquapin was re-elected chairman of the Board of Education at its first April meeting Tuesday, April 1st.

Boyette served as chairman for the past few months, since the resignation of Jimmy Strickland, who resigned to accept the chairmanship of the board of trustees of JSTC. Graham Phillips of Wallace was re-elected vice chairman.

The board adopted a policy to provide certificates for students who fulfill all state and local course requirements but fail one or both portions of the state competency tests.

No distinction will be made during the commencement exercises between students receiving the regular diplomas and those receiving certificates, the board ruled. "As it stands right now, 19 regular students and 21 educationally mentally handicapped students would receive certificates due to not having passed the competency tests," said Asst. Supt. Gary Sanderson. Sanderson said the competency tests will be given in the county again this month.

The board agreed to cooperate with the United Outreach Group to provide books and assistance to help 75 low-achieving students receive special educational offerings this summer.

Nathaniel Dobson, spokesman for the Outreach Group, said classes will be held in Wallace, Greeneville and Farrior on N.C. 24 east of Kenansville. Money for this project will be provided by the group. Dobson said no tax money will be involved.

Jim Flowers, county juvenile task force chairman, reported a sharp reduction in number of student school days lost to suspension since the start of an in-school suspension pilot program in the Warsaw Jr. High. He reported that 41 suspensions

resulted in 161 school days lost by students last year. So far this year, only seven students have been suspended. Sixty-five students have been assigned to the in-school suspension program. Of these, 32 were assigned for the second time. Under the in-school suspension program, students stay in a special class, take no part in school activities and

eat apart from the regular students.

The board was informed that a plan allowing high school seniors with exceptional records to take college credit courses, will go into effect this spring. Sanderson and Gene Ballard of JSTC discussed the project. Two subjects, math and social science, will be offered this spring, they said. The credits will come through UNC-W.

Warsaw DSA Banquet Friday

The 1980 Warsaw Jaycees Distinguished Service Awards banquet will be held April 11 at The Country Squire beginning at 7:30 p.m.

The banquet is held annually to honor individuals who have contributed outstanding service to the Warsaw community. Awards will be presented to the outstanding educator, outstanding teenager (male and female), outstanding law officer, outstanding young farmer, and the distinguished citizen award.

man Charlie Whitley, who is married to the former Audrey Kornegay of Warsaw.

Whitley has served as Congressman from the Third Congressional District since 1976, when he succeeded David Henderson of Wallace. Whitley worked 15 years as administrative assistant to Henderson in Washington before seeking the office when Henderson retired. Whitley is a graduate of Wake Forest University and Law School. He practiced law in Mount Olive for ten years before working with Henderson. In Mount Olive, Whitley is a member of the First Baptist Church. He is also a member of the Rotary, Jaycees, Masonic Lodge and the Mount Olive American Legion Post 103.



Charlie Whitley

The guest speaker at the banquet will be Congress-

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration will be held at Harrells Christian Academy on Wednesday, April 16 from 9-12. Interested parents are invited to bring their children for this day of registration and orientation. If possible bring health record and birth certificates.

Outdoor Drama Membership Drive Underway To Promote Liberty Cart

The second annual membership drive for the Duplin County Outdoor Drama Society began last week to promote the 1980 season of THE LIBERTY CART.

According to Rich Boyd, general manager of THE LIBERTY CART, there will be no door-to-door sales of memberships, but a mailing campaign to enlist new members. As a result of last year's mailing promotion of memberships in the society, over \$3,000 was raised to help support THE LIBERTY CART, Boyd said. This year there are seven different membership categories, ranging from a single membership to an angel membership. As a member of the Outdoor Drama Society, Boyd said, the member's name will be listed in the 1980 souvenir program of THE LIBERTY CART, and the member will receive tickets to the opening night performance and supper. Boyd added that the Buck Swamp Kicking Cloggers from Goldsboro will be the pre-show entertainment on opening night this year. The Cloggers have appeared at

the White House, Boyd said. The membership campaign will begin its first mailing about the middle of

April, a second mailing will follow as a reminder to those who did not respond, and a third mailing will conclude the mail campaign in May, Boyd explained. The final phase of the membership drive will be telephone calls to persons who did not respond through the mail. The calls will be made by the Silver Streakers, a group of senior citizens in Kenansville, Boyd said. He added that names on the membership drive list had come from last year's membership list and suggested names from community representatives throughout Duplin County.

"THE LIBERTY CART is absolutely unparalleled across the state, and its increased attendance is unequalled by any other outdoor drama in the state," said Judy Barringer, executive director of North Carolina Theatre Arts. Barringer and Bill Bates, associate director of N.C.T.A., were present at the kick-off of the 1980 membership

drive for the Duplin Outdoor Drama Society.

"Theatre Arts is proud of the success of THE LIBERTY CART, and a measure of its success has been its community support," Barringer added.

General Chairman of the Membership Drive Ann Craft

SBA To Provide Disaster Loans

Larry Cherry, Charlotte district director for the U.S. Small Business Administration, announced Friday details of the SBA physical and economic injury disaster loan program available to homeowners, farmers and businesses in Beaufort, Dare, Duplin, Lenoir, Onslow, Sampson and all adjacent counties for a total of 23 counties.

Any farmer, homeowner or business suffering damage from wind, heavy sleet and snow storms of March 1-3 are eligible to apply for low interest loans to repair or replace the property

of Kenansville said that Duplin County has one of the best amphitheatres in the state and one of the best directors, which could not be taken away from the county. She added that THE LIBERTY CART helps county people by attracting tourists, which brings money into the county.

damaged or destroyed.

Cherry also says that interest rates are 8 1/4% for applicants who have the ability to obtain financial assistance from other sources and 5% for those who, in the judgment of SBA, do not have access to other financial resources. Repayment terms are based on the ability to repay. In addition to loans for physical damage, loans may be made to small businesses that suffered economic losses to help them meet obligations that could have been met if the disaster had not occurred.

THE LIBERTY CART will begin its fifth season in Duplin County this year at the William Rand Kenan, Jr. Memorial Amphitheatre in Kenansville. The season will begin July 18 and continue through August 24, showing nightly Thursday through Sunday night.

Applicants must file for property damage loans before May 22, and for economic injury loans before December 22, 1980.

SBA has installed special toll-free telephone lines for applicants to make inquiry and to apply for loans. The free number, 1-800-532-0368 will be open from 8:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The mailing address for Small Business Administration is 230 South Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202.

Beulaville Approves Bond Issues

Beulaville residents overwhelmingly approved two bond issues which will allow for improvements to the city water system and renovation and upgrading of the sewer system.

Voters approved a sewer bond for \$210,000 by 201 to 11, and the water bond, which is for \$415,000, passed by 191 to 18. In all, 213 local residents voted out of an electorate of approximately 600 registered.

Total estimated cost of the two projects is \$1,163,800 with more than \$500,000 to come from grants.

Students Register To Vote

Persons who were to be 18 years old on or before Nov. 5 were eligible to vote in the May 6 primary election if they are properly registered. The Duplin County Board of Elections established registration times in high schools to enable them to register.

In North Duplin, 50 students registered, 90 registered in East Duplin, and at James Kenan 85 students registered.



NEW FIRE TRUCK - Pleasant Grove Volunteer Fire Department has purchased a 1979 tank truck. The tank truck will be the fourth addition to the Pleasant Grove Fire Department since its beginning. The department now has two tank trucks, a pumper truck and a pump buggy. The fire department presently serves a four-mile radius and

has 25 members. Pictured above is Farmers Home Administration representative Larry Davis, fire department treasurer Wayland Southerland, Fire Chief Larry Howard, and Lee Fire Equipment and Supply representative Milton Dixon.

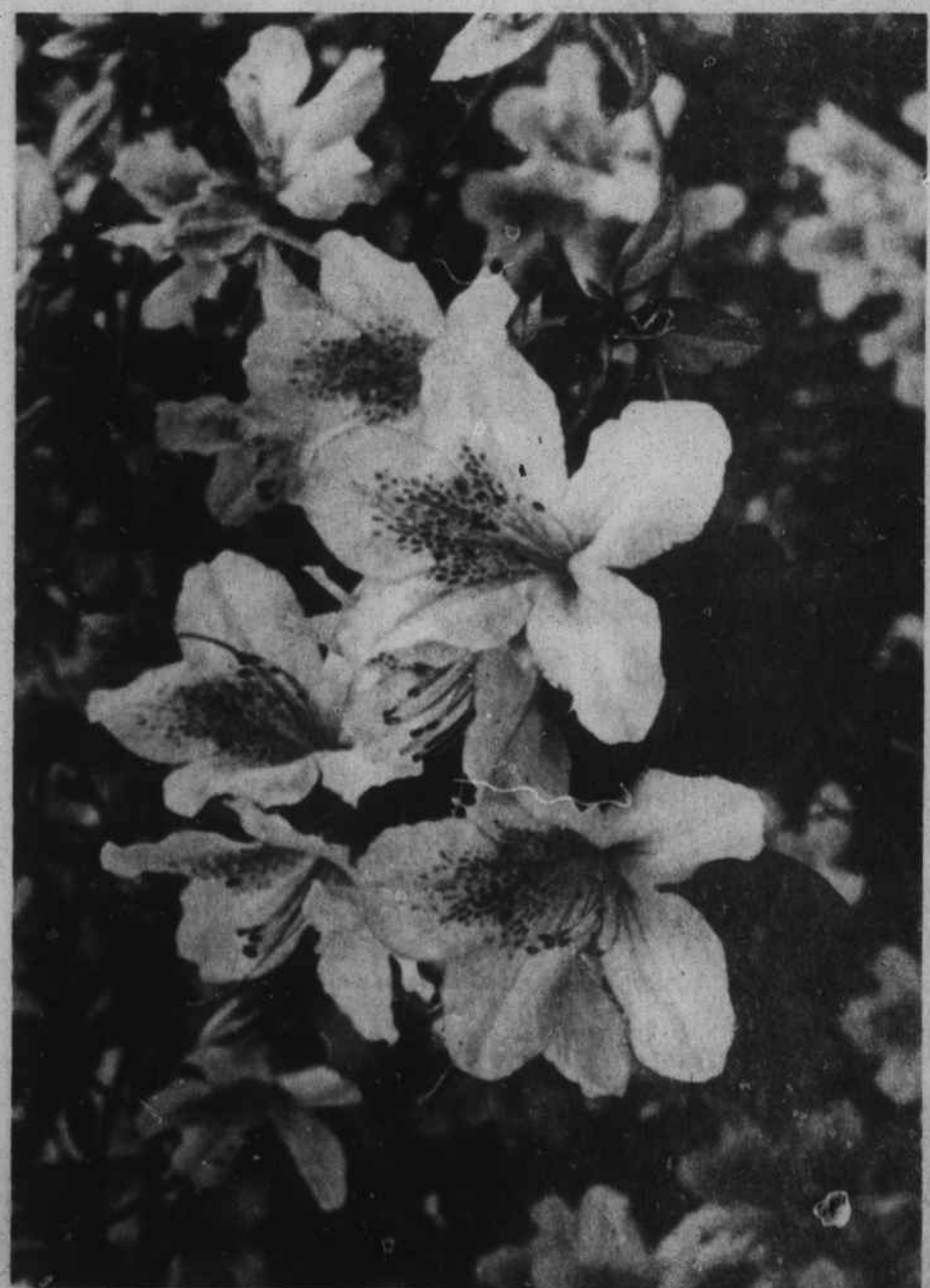


Photo by Emily Killeto

AZALEAS IN BLOOM - Spring is truly here when the azaleas are in full bloom. After three snow storms and zero degree temperatures, Duplin citizens welcome the sight of flowers in bloom. And, this weekend is the

annual Azalea Festival to celebrate spring in Wilmington, but all of the state will join in the spirit of the celebrations and welcome the blooming of the azaleas and the coming of warmer temperatures.