

Son Of A Gun

by Joe Lanier

I have been told by many I made a boo-boo in last week's column. . . (That's a real professional-type word — boo-boo). . . My mistake last week was the use of a certain word, and practically every place I went it was pointed out. I was told. . . "You simply cannot associate the words school administration and intellects." "It's like apples and oranges, gas and water — they just don't go together." . . I must admit after reading the definition in the dictionary, intellects may be spreading it on a little thick, but in my opinion, there are some intelligent and creative folks there. I may disagree with some points of their policy or the implementation of some of the policies. . . I was brought up to waste nothing, to eat everything on my plate and drink all from my glass. . . Thus, where my tax money is involved, luxury is a sin. . . Though I may not agree with things I see as a luxury, I have always had a high respect for the intelligence of the administration. . . Let me point out, though, I don't think they are any smarter or dumber than most other people in Duplin County. I do believe their thinking, like some of the funds, is often channeled in the wrong direction. . .

After talking with many department heads in county government, it is plain to see the county commissioners are going to have quite a job at the budget hearings. If they are to maintain the pattern set by the Federal and State governments and cut the budget, and make no tax increase, then Duplin Countians will have fewer services next year. It appears there will no significant increase in the ad valorem tax figures. . . So, even to maintain the status quo will mean a cut in services. . . It will be interesting to see if they cut services to the people or to the board, if they cut at all. . . If they do not — look out for a tax increase — they see a sizeable one. . .

I am sure everyone knows I disagree with the "behind closed doors" part of government. I think all government action should be in the open — no executive sessions. The State of Florida has operated this way for years, so it can be done. . . Following is part of an editorial from the Gastonia Gazette in regards to executive sessions. . . "Irresponsibility is born and bred behind closed doors. However, responsibility blooms in open meetings and as surely as sunshine brings growth to spring gardens. It is not the capable and the responsible person who fights for executive sessions; it is the unsure person who realizes that a public gaffe might lose him votes in the next election. . . The state's open meetings law is better than it used to be, but it is not good enough. There are 18 exclusions that allow public boards to meet in private. What the law needs is fewer loop holes." . .

It appears to me that Duplin's Representative Doug Clark has found a way to get his name in the newspapers. . . To introduce bills that do more harm than good to the average citizen, or to vote against sensible bills. . . His latest attempt to get his name in print. . . He voted against the bill that would remove the quota system from the Highway Patrol. . . The program that says the Highway

Patrol must give so many tickets a month. . .

An interesting article written by Dan Bryan was given to me by Jimmy Tucker. . . "A friend tells me he went to the Clemson-Carolina football game last Saturday and that the stadium was packed full with the exception of a few seats directly in front of him. Finally, one little lady came and took one of the seats just in time for the opening kickoff. But the rest of the seats remained empty. Since my friend was sitting in somewhat cramped conditions (he was supposed to be in the bank), he asked the lady if her husband would be coming later. . . No, she said, her husband was dead. And with that, she invited him to sit in the vacant seat beside her. After moving to his new seat, he couldn't rest until his curiosity was satisfied. . . What about all the other vacant seats beside her, he asked, why was no one sitting in them. . . "Those seats belong to my relatives," was the reply. . . "And they won't be here either. They've all gone to my husband's funeral." . . Son-of-a-Gun. . .

JSTC President's

James Sprunt Technical College has released the President's and Dean's Lists for the winter quarter. The President's List consists of those who were enrolled fulltime and made all As. The Dean's List students earned a grade point average of B, with no grade lower than a C.

- President's List**
- David Aman, Clinton; Bertus Aman, Clinton; Mark Aprea, Kenansville; Julian Armstrong, Warsaw; Roy Beasley, Kenansville; Timothy Bell, Mount Olive; Charles Bland, Wallace; Debra Britt, Warsaw; Michael Butler, Kenansville; Harry Brown, Rose Hill; Mitchell Cavenaugh, Wallace; Leslie Rhon Daughtry, Dudley; Mike Decker, Wallace; Sharon Dorman, Kenansville; Huey Ezzell, Magnolia; William Gainey, Jacksonville; Stanley Gelbhaar, Willard; Donald Gurganious, Kenansville; Donald Henderson, Warsaw; James Herring, Beulaville; Billie Higgs, Beulaville; Kevin Hillard, Kenansville;

Thomas Hogue, Wallace; Michael Houston, Kenansville; Elwood Jones, Burgaw; Phillip Jordan, Kenansville; Mark Kenion, Rose Hill; Wayne Koski, Rose Hill; Donald Lanier, Burgaw; Jo Lynn Lewis, Faison; Maryanne Matthews, Rose Hill; Richard McCall, Kenansville; Helen Mounts, Kenansville; Ida Murrill, Warsaw; Judy Outlaw, Warsaw; Robert Price, Faison; Ermon Scott, Richlands; Clymough Simpson, Beulaville; Dennis Stanley, Mount Olive; Murchison Usher, Rose Hill; Don Vinyard, Mount Olive; Johnny Wells, Teachey; William Wells Jr., Teachey; Kenneth Williams, Rose Hill; Floyd Winstead, Kenansville; Delbert Wright

Jr., Jacksonville; Linda S. Harrell, Chinquapin; and Susan King, Wallace.

Tobacco Teletip

A new source of information is now available for Duplin County tobacco growers. The Agricultural Extension Service has added a number of messages on tobacco to its statewide Teletip system, according to J. Michael Moore, Duplin County agricultural extension agent.

Teletip is a tollfree telephone answering service that has messages on many topics, Moore explained. The new messages especially for tobacco growers are: 8111 - Phosphorus needs of flue-cured tobacco; 8121 - Applying Ridomil to control blue and damping off in plant beds; 8122 - Applying Ridomil to control blue mold and damping off in field; 8124 - Applying contact sucker control chemicals; 8125 - Applying systemic sucker control chemicals; 8126 - Spray nozzles for sucker control; 8130 - Controlling aphids or plant lice; 8131 -

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