

Duplin Times

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Hundreds Of People Attend Plantation Day In Kenansville.

Plantation Day on the grounds of Liberty Hall in Kenansville included a variety of entertainment including music by the local Charlie Albertson Band and Ocracoke's Gary Mitchell. The excitement included a presentation from The Liberty Cart outdoor drama fair scene. Refreshments were furnished by Kenansville Chamber of Commerce and the Plantation Day activities coordinated by the Duplin County Arts Council. The top photo features visitors to Plantation Day listening to Gary Mitchell. The bottom photo is a late evening view of Liberty Hall after most Plantation Day visitors have gone. The cart from the outdoor drama, The Liberty Cart, remained along with some of the guests after Plantation Day activities concluded.



Opening Night Plans Announced For Drama

The Liberty Cart welcomes the Cripple Creek Cloggers from Burgaw as pre-show entertainment on opening night, July 13, of the outdoor drama in Kenansville. The Liberty Cart opens its ninth season with the traditional supper-in-the-pines, July 13 at the William R. Kenan Memorial Amphitheatre. Supper-in-the-pines begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by the performance of the Cripple Creek Cloggers on the stage of the amphitheatre at 7:30. The opening night performance of the historical outdoor drama, The

Liberty Cart, begins at 8:15 p.m. The Liberty Cart welcomes the Cripple Creek Cloggers back for their third appearance as pre-show entertainment at the amphitheatre. The groups are led by Buck and Nancy Aycock. The Cripple Creek Cloggers features both adults, and teens and children performing traditional, precision and free style dances. The Cloggers are based at the Aycocks' studio, Cripple Creek Corner of Burgaw. Opening night the Cloggers will present the adult cloggers perform-

ing traditional dances. Appearing with the eight adult cloggers younger members of the group performing precision and free style clogging. Nancy Aycock pointed out that more than 45 members of the Cripple Creek Cloggers are residents of Pender County. In addition to performances at the Liberty Cart, the adult group of the Cloggers have danced at the Wilmington Azalea Festival and performed in a number of states, as well as locally, and appeared on the television show Fantasy.

County Cuts Back Summer School Due To Low Enrollment

Duplin County is holding one summer school session instead of two this year because of low enrollment. Summer school will be held at James Kenan High School east of Warsaw. Plans for a summer session at East Duplin High School at Beulaville have been dropped. Assistant Superintendent Gary Sanderson said. Of the 202 students who have enrolled in summer school, 152 are enrolled in English, 21 in mathematics, 18 in history and 11 in science. Jimmie Newkirk, a teacher, said the tuition is not a deterrent to enrollment. "Students are more interested because they are paying and they should pay because they sat there for

nine months and didn't take advantage of what was offered," Newkirk said. A limit should be set on absences from summer school, Newkirk added. "We handle a normal week's classwork in one day and if they are absent three or four days, they simply can't make up the missed work and pass." In other school business this week, the Duplin County Board of Education Tuesday approved hiring an instructor from James Strunt Technical College part-time to teach an introductory computer course. Two computer classes will be offered next year at James Kenan. Each class will have room for 16 students. The teacher will be paid \$2,040. Computer instruction began at James Kenan last school year and

the board believes the teachers have not had time to prepare for teaching the course. No tuition will be charged. Student insurance will be provided this school year by Youth Guard Insurance, handled through the L.E. Taylor agency of Wilson, the board decided. The premium will be \$9.50 for each student, \$39 for education staff members and \$49 for other school employees. A house built by the Wallace-Rose Hill High School vocational classes will be offered for sale at 10:30 a.m. July 14, the board decided. The buyer will have to move the house from the school grounds.

Local Duplin Officials Head For Seattle

Twenty-four officials from Southeastern North Carolina attended a convention in Seattle this past weekend of the National Association of County Officials. The conference will bring together members of county boards from across the nation who can share experiences and allow smaller

counties to learn from their mistakes. Three Duplin County commissioners attended; C.C. Turner, Dovie Penney, and Allen Nethercutt. Their round-trip tickets cost \$521 each. Their room rates were \$76 nightly. County Manager Ralph Cottle said he probably will attend the conference also.

Kenansville May Buy Building For Their First Town Hall

The former Federal Land Bank may become Kenansville's first town hall.

The Town Board voted last week to buy the former Federal Land Bank building in Kenansville if arrangements can be made with the agency. The building would become Kenansville's first town hall. The Town Board now uses space in the fire department. The agency is asking \$73,000 for the one-story, 2,200-square-foot masonry building on N.C. 24 east of the courthouse square. The board directed town attorney W.E. Craft to study a payment method. The board wants to pay \$20,000 immediately and the remaining \$53,000 over three years. Town officials plan to use the town's federal revenue-sharing money to buy the property. North Carolina National Bank offered to lend the town \$53,000 at nine percent interest for three years with no penalty for early payment. UCB offered to lend the town the money at 65 percent of the prime

rate. The Federal Land Bank offered the town the money at 13 percent interest. Six residents attended the public hearing on the proposed purchase. "Why do you want a building? What's wrong with where you are now?" Henry Barnett asked. "All towns need a town hall," said Mayor Don Suttles. "We've got one office for the clerk. We've got one for the police. The chamber needs space. We don't have any place to meet. We don't even have any place to put a file cabinet. "We're meeting in this room at the convenience of the fire department," Suttles said. "We have to schedule our meetings around the fire department. It's their building. They control it and rightly so." "Most places do have a town hall," said Town Commissioner Earl Hatcher. "I've been here 30-some years and I remember when we met in the back room of a jewelry store. It's time we move on." Commissioner Ronnie Bostic asked: "Is there money to buy the building? Where are we going to get the money from?"

Clerk Mary Ann Jenkins said the building can be paid for in three years using federal revenue-sharing funds. "I would like to see us buy it if we can afford it, but I would hate to see us tie up all of our revenue sharing for the next three years in any project," Bostic said. "We've been talking about it for 30 years," Hatcher said. "Revenue sharing won't continue forever. I think we should either do it now or forget it. If we use this revenue sharing to run the town with and they cut it off, we'll have one of the damndest tax increases you ever saw or cut what we're doing drastically." "Kenansville has always had a make-shift town hall," said Woody Brinson, a former mayor and town administrator. Brinson suggested that moving town offices from the center of town might help town growth. "Everybody can't be in the center of town," he said. "If you move the town hall a block down the road maybe some other businesses will move a block down the road."

Duplin Hospital Views Results Of Citizen Survey

The planning committee at Duplin General Hospital, at its June meeting, reviewed the results of the survey which was mailed to 869 citizens of Duplin County. A total of 143 questionnaires were completed and returned. Of those responding, 50.3% indicated that they or a member of their family had been admitted to Duplin General Hospital as an inpatient in the last five years. 91.2% indicated they were pleased with the service provided. 94.3% felt that Duplin General Hospital employees were courteous. 93.0% were pleased with the services provided by nurses. 81.7% were pleased with services provided by doctors. 80.3% were pleased with financial transactions or dealings with the business office. 72.1% felt that the hospital was properly equipped and staffed. 55.9% indicated they or a family member had used the Emergency Room at Duplin General in the last five years with 73.1% indicating that their experience with the Emergency Room was satisfactory. 85.2% felt that the services at Duplin General needed to

be improved. 82.5% indicated that their friends or acquaintances have a good opinion of Duplin General Hospital. 61.6% indicated that their friends or acquaintances have a bad opinion of Duplin General. 92% have a regular physician and 64.6% of such physicians have offices in Duplin County. 85.6% felt that more doctors were needed in Duplin County. 99.3% felt they have a choice of hospitals if they or a family member had to be admitted to a hospital in the future. The planning committee, chaired by Irvin Graham of Wallace, was designated by the Board of Trustees to prepare a long-range plan for Duplin General Hospital. The plan will identify the mission, role, function, and program of the hospital within the next five to ten years. In developing the plan, the planning committee decided it would consider the opinions and views of as many individuals as possible. Input has been obtained from trustees, physicians, hospital employees, and citizens of Duplin County. The plan is scheduled to be completed in July

and presented to the Hospital Trustees at their meeting in August. The planning committee's makeup includes the members of the Board of Trustees, representation of the hospital's medical staff, hospital administration and legal counsel. Gary Mansfield, Associate Director of the Center for Health Services Research and Development, School of Medicine, East Carolina University at Greenville, serves as consultant for the planning project. The members of the committee are: Dr. M. I. Ammar, physician; Dr. E. L. Boyette, physician and trustee; Wade Carlton, trustee; Elbert Davis, trustee; William P. Fennell, trustee; Irvin Graham, trustee; R. E. Hiarrell, Hospital administrator; Anne B. Houston, RN, MSN Director of Nursing Services; Carolyn and Charles Ingram, attorneys; Juanita Kresch, trustee; DR. Ed Little, physician; Allen Nethercutt, trustee; Dr. Oscar Redwine, physician; Ray Sanderson, trustee; William D. Thigpen, trustee; trustee and Victor Tucker, hospital controller.

Pay Increases Tabled By Beulaville Commissioners

Beulaville Commissioners tabled the motion to award five percent pay raises to town employees during the July 2 meeting. After bringing the issue before the Board, Commissioners Joe Edwards and S.A. Blizzard withdrew the motion for a straight five percent raise to all town employees. "I think some town employees are due more than others," S.A. Blizzard said. He cited responsibility levels and merit as the basis for pay raises. Beulaville Commissioners Elvis Sumner and Joe Edwards were appointed to study and make a recommendation on raises for town employees at a future meeting of the Board. In updating personnel policies, the Beulaville Commissioners voted four to one in favor of additional vacation time for town employees. The new policy allocates 10 vacation days annually for personnel employed one to 10 years, and 15 days maximum each year after 10 years. Commissioner Rabon Maready amended the motion

first brought before the board by Blizzard requesting five vacation days annually for personnel employed one to five years; 10 days, six to 10 years; 15 days, 11 to 15 years and a maximum of 20 days per year after 15 years. Blizzard opposed the amended vacation policy. Town personnel had been receiving five vacation days annually during their first 10 years of service and a maximum of 10 days per year. Commissioners renewed town contracts with Attorney Russell Lanier and Auditor Doug Clark. The contract for \$1,100 with Lanier was unanimously approved. A \$300 increase was requested by Lanier for the new contract and approved by the board. Commissioner Maready opposed the \$2,250 contract with Doug Clark. The contract with Clark will be renewed on a four to one vote by the board. Following a motion by Maready the board unanimously approved the investment of \$150,000 in a three-month certificate of deposit with the

Beulaville United Carolina Bank. Informal contacts with Kenansville and Richlands North Carolina National Bank offices and Beulaville First Citizens and UCB were made by town clerk Carol Miller for the current interest rates of each. Beulaville's UCB offered the best rate for three-month certificates of deposit at 11.40 percent. In order to connect to the Beulaville sewer system Anthony Ramson was instructed he would be required to purchase pipe to hook on and pay a tap fee. Beulaville public works employees would install the pipe on town right-of-way. The tap fee and pipe were estimated to total more than \$800. Commissioner Maready disagreed with the ordinance requiring Ramson to pay a tap fee and the cost of extending lines for sewer service to his residence. "I agree we (Beulaville Commissioners) have to go by the ordinance, but I think in this case the ordinance has outlived itself," Maready said.

Duplin Commissioners Tap Funds To Pay Telephone Access Fee

The first amendment to the 1984-85 Duplin County budget came last week on the first business day of the fiscal year, July 1st. The Board of Commissioners amended the budget to take \$3,180 from the contingency fund and add it to the telephone fund. Carolina Telephone & Telegraph Co. of Tarboro, which serves Duplin and much of eastern North Carolina, informed the commissioners that the county will have to pay a \$4.75 per month access fee on all but one of the county's telephones. The cost will be \$3,180 per year. The board directed County Finance Officer Russell Tucker and County Manager Ralph Cottle to study the feasibility of the county's purchasing a central telephone system for all county offices. With such a system the number of telephone lines into county offices could be reduced.

Fourteen telephone lines come into the courthouse. Additional lines serve the law enforcement center, emergency services department, agricultural extension service, social services, library, maintenance and vices, library, maintenance and health departments and airport. In other business, the board agreed in a split vote to write a letter to state and federal agencies stating the county's need for the service of

Plainview Health Center at Greenville. Voting to write the letter were Commissioners W.J. Costin, Dovie Penney, D.J. Fussell and Calvin Coolidge Turner. Referring to a former Plainview physician's refusal to cooperate with Duplin General Hospital, Commissioner Allen Nethercutt said, "I would only vote for it if there was a stipulation that they would support Duplin General Hospital."