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John Rice Returns As Phenius in 1984 Season Of THE LIBERTY CART.

## Lead Actor Changes At Drama In Kenansville

THE LIBERTY CART outdoor drama of Kenansville announces the return of John Rice in the role of Phenius Pickett. Rice resumes the role in the July 26th performance. He returns from the 1983 season as Phenius Pickett in Randolph UMBERGER's historical outdoor drama, THE LIBERTY CART, in the William R. Kenan Memorial Amphitheatre.

Prior to working with THE LIBERTY CART, Rice portrayed the lead role in the outdoor drama BLACKBEARD in Bath. He portrayed the pirate for two seasons before joining the cast of THE LIBERTY CART.

"I am pleased to be back with THE LIBERTY CART," John Rice said. "North Carolina is known for its many outstanding outdoor

dramas, but THE LIBERTY CART is one of the best.

"THE LIBERTY CART is one of the more personal shows. The events and characters are interesting and very likeable people with a story to tell," Rice said.

Rice is a native of Washington, D.C., and currently resides with his wife Tina in Chicago, Ill. He attended Carnegie-Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pa., but transferred to Ohio State University in Columbus where he received a bachelor of science education and master of arts in theatre, speech and English.

"Phenius has many faces or qualities that just naturally draw people; he is the homespun type — the humanitarian, the traveler, the philosopher," Rice explained the

offer to complete the 1984 season in the role of Phenius Pickett drew him back to North Carolina after recently completing a move to Chicago from Bowling Green, Ohio, where he worked as an instructor at Perrysburg Exempted Village Schools.

"John Rice is an outstanding actor," Artistic Director of THE LIBERTY CART David Thomas said. "The talent and vitality of John Rice brings Phenius and THE LIBERTY CART to life, and the drama is fortunate to be associated with an actor of Rice's capabilities."

THE LIBERTY CART opened July 13 in the William R. Kenan Memorial Amphitheatre in Kenansville. The season continues through August 25, each Thursday, Friday and Saturday evening at 8:15 p.m.

## Wallace's Frink Sentenced In Children's Fire Deaths

Anthony Eugene Frink, 28, of Route 2, Wallace, was sentenced this past week to four years in prison after pleading guilty to charges of exposing children to fire.

His four children died in a fire that broke out after he left them alone at home.

He was sentenced in Duplin County Superior Court by Judge Henry L. Stevens III of Warsaw. The judge recommended work release for the prisoner.

The charges arose from the death of Frink's four children Feb. 29 in a fire that destroyed the family's home in the Deep Bottom community about 12 miles east of Wallace.

Frink was charged with four misdemeanor counts of exposing children to fire and with four counts of manslaughter.

In a plea bargain, the manslaughter charges were dropped and the four exposure charges consolidated into two charges. He was sentenced to two years on each charge, the sentences to run consecutively.

Dewey Hudson, an assistant district attorney, was the prosecutor. Frink was represented by Vance Gavin of Kenansville.

The dead children were Anthony Marcellus, 6, Keiona Lamore, 4, Kawanna Yashek, 3, and Katrell Twanette, 1.

At the time of the fire, the mother,

Florene Frink, was attending a church service in Goldsboro.

Frink said he left the house to walk to a nearby store for cigarettes. Finding the store closed, he started toward another, a short distance away, but changed his mind and turned around for home. He saw the flames and ran the rest of the way to the house. He was unable to get inside.

Autopsies the following day at the Onslow Memorial Hospital in Jacksonville indicated that the children died of smoke inhalation.

A gas heater in the hallway in the center of the four-room home was suspected as the cause of the fire.

## Dr. Lee Resigns Position At Goshen For Private Practice

Dr. Ken Lee, internist at Goshen Medical Center, turned in his final resignation to the Board of Directors July 6. Lee is employed as a part-time physician at the Center in Faison.

"I have been up-front with the Board at Goshen Medical Center from the very beginning," Dr. Ken Lee, internist at Goshen Medical Center, said. "I told them I would work at the Center a couple of years and get to know the community, and if I liked the area I would begin to set up a private practice." Lee's resignation was presented to the Goshen Medical Center Board of Directors at the July 17 meeting. The resignation is effective October 6.

"I will not be leaving Goshen Medical Center high and dry," Lee said. "I have a verbal agreement, which will be put in writing, to continue working for the Center on an as-needed basis." Lee's resignation is six months short of completing a two-year contract originally signed with Goshen Medical Center.

With the resignation of Dr. Lee, Goshen Medical Center faces the loss of their second physician within the past six months. Dr. Jeff Margolis, internist, resigned in February effective June 30, to enter private practice in Sampson County.



Dr. Ken Lee

Efforts to recruit a full-time physician to the vacant position at Goshen have not been successful at this time, but Center Administrator Bob Hauck expects to have a replacement by September 1.

"The loss of these physicians does not put Goshen Medical Center out of business," Bob Hauck, administrator of Goshen Medical Center, said. "A large majority of the people who visit Goshen never see a physician — they are treated by the physician assistant or visit the

licensed practical nurse or the dentistry wing at the Center."

Although no prospective candidates have been located, Hauck said the Center is in the process of contacting 450 Family Practice Residency Programs to recruit a physician for Goshen. In addition, Hauck pointed out, the Directors have filed a request for a physician with the National Health Service Corp.

Currently Dr. Lee is associated with the private general family medical practice of Dr. Edwin P. Ewers of Warsaw. Leaving Goshen Medical Center, Lee will continue in the Ewers practice on a full-time basis.

Lee is a native of Macao, a Portuguese colony southwest of Hong Kong, and after his family moved to California, he became a citizen of the United States and enrolled at Pasadena City College while still attending high school. When Lee later graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he was the only one in his class to graduate with two degrees after only three years of study. Lee graduated with degrees in electrical engineering and genetic biology. He also enrolled in the University of California School of Medicine and School of Pharmacy at the same time and graduated from both.

## School Board Adopts 10-Year Building Plan For System

At the July 17th meeting of the Duplin County Board of Education, the board adopted a facility improvement plan for the Duplin County school system.

Phase One of the plan, which covers 1984 through 1987 (plus or minus) is to build additions to the James Kenan High School to house the 9th grade (12 classrooms with media center, guidance, band, administrative suites, and lunchroom updating). The estimated cost is \$2 million.

Some of the rationale given includes: The facility would be needed if James Kenan is to remain a high school or if it were to be a middle school, the additions would still be needed. Grades 7-8 would be left at the existing Warsaw Junior High and E.E. Smith Junior High, with only that part of the building required to support the instructional program receiving daily custodial care. The remaining part of the building would house special programs or serve as storage space. Grades K-6 would continue to be housed at Warsaw Elementary and Kenansville Elementary with only modifications to the suites requiring changes there in the next few years.

Build on to North Duplin High School to house the 7th and 8th grades on one campus. The estimated cost, \$365,000. Some of the rationale: The facility at James Kenan would be needed if it is to remain a high school, or if it were to be turned into a middle school. North Duplin Junior High School would be phased out of use for public school purposes. North Duplin Elementary, kindergarten through 6th grade, would continue to be housed in the existing building with modifications to suites.

Build a band area at Charity Middle School. Cost, \$60,000. The rationale: The band facility is needed very badly now and all other facilities in the Wallace-Rose Hill district would remain as they now exist.

Also in Phase One is to change some of the open classrooms into single classrooms in all four of the schools where they are now located. This change would take place at the Christmas break and after the first year of the pilots, 1984-85 plans would be developed, and educational specifications would be completed so that the remaining suites in the four schools could be modified appropriately within a two-year period or, sooner if possible.

Phase Two, which is to take place from 1987 to 1991, includes adopting the entire East Duplin district plan. This means a new elementary school at B.F. Grady, a new elementary school at Beulaville, and the addition of 4-6 at Chinquapin Primary campus and build a new middle school to serve the district in the vicinity of East Duplin High School. Some of the rationale: East Duplin High School would remain a 9-12 with approximately 730 students. With the continuing decline in enrollment in the East Duplin district, the 7th and 8th grades in the individual schools would be: in 1987 at B.F. Grady, 95, at Beulaville, 192, and at Chinquapin, 104. In the year 1992 at B.F. Grady, 81, at Beulaville 155 and at Chinquapin, 121.

The East Duplin middle school would have an enrollment of 391, offering a better middle school curriculum, and transportation from either school district should not exceed an additional 10-12 miles. Duplication of facilities at the three sites for 7th and 8th grades would not be as well planned and spent as

one set of complete facilities at one site, since it would be readily accessible to all school attendance areas within the district (shops, labs, gym, dressing, etc.) The three new elementary schools would provide an exemplary elementary program without distractions of older students and their needs. This phase of the plan was adopted with more research going into whether or not the elementary schools would be K-6 or K-8.

Phase Three to begin in 1992 is to build the needs at Wallace-Rose Hill and Charity Middle School at an estimated cost of \$1 million. Some of the rationale: The construction of an auditorium at Wallace-Rose Hill High School would serve the needs of the entire district and place an auditorium in all school districts excepting North Duplin. The modernization of Charity and the refurbishing of Wallace-Rose Hill High School should be accomplished during the next 10-12 years. The overloads at Wallace Elementary for the past two years should be monitored closely, and if Wallace Elementary continues to grow, some consideration must be given to relieve the overloads.

Phase Four planning 1987-1992. Continue planning and monitoring of student population and curriculum

offerings at James Kenan High School and North Duplin High School. Within the next six years, if enrollments in the two school continue to decline, begin the process of uniting the schools so that immediately after the Phase Three projects are complete, work can begin on the new school. Some of the rationale submitted: Considerable planning has already occurred but the immediate plan for James Kenan and North Duplin (Phase One) will take care of the curriculum problem for a few years until more pressing facility needs have been met in Phase One, Phase Two and Phase Three. It will be assumed that the North Duplin High School curriculum and support programs will continue to receive special help throughout the duration of Phases One through Three. Within the next six years, the board will begin plans for a new 9-12 high school to serve the James Kenan district and the North Duplin district if: 1) The student population in these two districts continue to decline. 2) The curriculum offered is deemed inadequate to prepare the affected youngsters adequately. 3) The repair and maintenance costs cannot be maintained at a reasonable level. 4) Any other legitimate reason the Board of Education deems adequate to consider.

## Schools Respond To Enrollment Dip In Duplin County

A declining birth rate in Duplin County is creating some problems in long-range school planning.

Superintendent L.S. Guy, in a cover statement to the long-range facility plan approved this past week by the board of education, wrote: "Cost of construction continues to be a critical factor, especially when planning would indicate a shortage surplus of space."

To maintain the quality of education in the county system, some old buildings need replacement, the report says. Some combination of schools may become necessary.

A continuing enrollment decline could force consolidation of North Duplin and James Kenan high schools for educational efficiency, the report says.

The division of school planning of the N.C. Department of Public Instruction developed the long-range plan for Duplin County in 1982-83.

The plan calls for consolidation of the two high schools under either of two options — grades 9-12 and a facility for about 900 students or grades 10-12 in a facility for about 650 students.

The study projects declining attendance for James Kenan and relatively stable attendance for the present North Duplin High School. By the 1986-87 school year, Kenan High School's enrollment is projected at 632, compared with 707 in the 1981-82 year.

North Duplin's projected enrollment for 1986-87 is 287, compared

with 285 in the 1981-82 year.

The Department of Public Instruction projects Duplin County's 1986-87 school membership at 7,831 students compared with 8,437 in the 1981-82 year.

Duplin County school enrollment in kindergarten through sixth grade is projected at 4,090 in 1986-87 compared with 4,241 for the 1981-82 school year. Enrollment in the high school grades (9-12) is projected at 7,831 for the 1986-87 year compared with 8,437 for the 1981-82 year.

The enrollment projections were based on the county's declining birth rate from 1971 to 1981. In 1971, 714 children were born in the county. That dropped to 531 in 1981. Increases in births were registered in only two of those years.

The study showed that of the 714 children born in 1971, 98.9 percent entered first grade in the 1977-78 school year.

From the 1977-78 to the 1981-82 school years, enrollment of beginning students exceeded the births six years earlier, reflecting immigration to Duplin County.

The 1980 U.S. census showed the county had gained 2,643 people since 1970, the first population gain in two decades. The 1980 census showed the county had 40,658 people compared with 38,015 in 1970.

## Faison 4-H'er Helps Migrant Child Learn English

Parents remember helping teach their children to talk and later read. Norman Ezzell, a Duplin 4-H'er, has taken a similar opportunity to help teach a migrant child English.

While most migrant children attend school in the United States and have limited use of the English language and mathematics, 10-year-old Maria Vega fell behind the other children of migrant families and Norwood Ezzell tutors her.

Norwood is a rising sophomore at North Duplin High School who spent one hour a day last week tutoring Maria. He plans to continue the sessions through the summer program for pre-school and school-age migrant children held at North Duplin Elementary School.

Maria is one of 80 migrant children attending the summer school at North Duplin. The program is designed to provide educational assistance to the children in mathematics and the English language, director of the school, Kenneth

Avent, said. In addition to education, the students receive health services from Goshen Medical Center and are fed three balanced meals a day. School hours are 8 a.m. through 7 p.m. The program opened June 20 and continues through July 31. According to Avent, the enrollment started with 40 students and has doubled.

"Maria is real smart," Norwood Ezzell said. "She is catching on very quickly. We started with the ABCs and then moved on to counting and finally reading stories."

"She understands the stories and recognizes a lot of words when she sees them. Today we tried some nursery rhymes, but they were too hard and I don't think she understood them."

"I had been asked to help with school and later Maria's teacher talked to me about this. So, I ended up tutoring Maria and it has been a real experience."

"I have to admire Maria," Nor-

wood said. "If I were in her place, I would be scared to death, and I don't know if I could get along." This is Maria's first summer in Duplin. Many of the migrant children attending North Duplin have been in the Faison area before.

Working with Maria earns Norwood points toward a possible scholarship through the personal development 4-H service projects. Norwood plans to earn additional points toward the scholarship through other local service projects in the Faison area.

"Other migrant children help translate for Maria," Norwood said. "But the chance to come to the North Duplin program helps all the children. The school offers the migrant children an opportunity to learn and get used to our (American) ways, as well as just our language."

Norwood is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Norwood Ezzell of Faison and is a member of the Oak Ridge 4-H Club.