



Fair Entertainment Features Local Talent

Among the numerous high school chorus and band performances as featured entertainment at the Duplin Agribusiness Fair last week were many local singing groups. Featured entertainment guests at the fair last Thursday night was the Southern Struts, a country and western group. Pictured above is Southern Struts members Deborah Merritt and Greg Norris, both of Duplin County. The Duplin fair featured a variety of local entertainment groups including the Limestone Singers, the Warsaw Seesaws and the Country Sweets.

Along The Way

By Emily Killete

As time marches forward events of the past can only be recalled through assistance from the history books. Duplin, like much of the world, suffered great epidemics of small pox, typhoid fever, malaria and flu in the early 1900s which are seldom

remembered today. And, even more a part of history than the great epidemics are the doctors who helped bring the public through these illnesses. Dr. George W. Kennedy of Beulaville was a pioneer

CHRISTMAS WORKSHOP

There will be a Christmas workshop at This, That and the Other at Pink Hill on Thursday, October 18th

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of the medical profession and is remembered in the following article for his part in providing care for the sick — especially during the great epidemics.

The following article was originally published by THE DUPLIN TIMES in the February 24, 1955 issue. The author is not listed.

Kennedy, A Medical Pioneer In 'Snatchet,' Now Beulaville

On September 19, 1876 over in what was known as the Huckleberry Section of Sampson County just across the line from Duplin, George Walter Kennedy was born. His father was Levi Kennedy and his mother Jane Wilson Kennedy. They were the parents of two girls and five boys, George Walter being the youngest child.

His education began in a pay school where he very soon showed signs of becoming a student. He entered the Medical College of Virginia at Richmond, studying medicine under the famous Dr. Stuart McGuire of McGuire's Clinic and others. To make the most of his time and the little money he had, he seldom came home during his training there. After his graduation he decided to come to Duplin to practice, and it was on June 8, 1891 that he drove up to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John William Grissam (now spelled Gresham) to obtain room and board. He soon began a practice which extended many miles in a short while.

Of course Dr. Kennedy had a lot of time to read and continue his search in medical science as well as to observe the four charming daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Grissam who were typical farmerettes. In less than two years he had won the hand of Josephine and she became his wife April 11, 1900. Her career as a country doctor's wife was quite a change, too. She was always home to answer calls and many times provided meals for patients who had come from a distance.

Dr. Kennedy's greatest desire was to serve those who needed him and he never waited with folded hands. At first it was the horse and buggy or maybe horseback. When the roads were improved about 1913 he bought his first automobile. He always had a chauffeur because much of his sleeping was done while he rode.

Long before the day of vital statistics, he had already delivered many, many babies, quite a number of twins, and on one occasion triplets. So, he studied life from its beginning, and among his patients were the deformed, the mentally weak as well as those stricken with disease, those with money, those without it.

It was in 1914 that small pox broke out in Howard's Siding over in Lenoir County where there was a big lumber camp and, of course, the roads were impassable in some places, so the superintendent of the Deal Lumber Company sent the train to Beulaville for Dr. Kennedy. He lost one of these patients and had a hard time convincing the folks to be vaccinated.

Then there was typhoid fever and malaria, and last, but not least, the flu of 1919 which was fatal to so many.

Dr. Kennedy's resistance to disease was almost phenomenal and many times when he would take or visit a patient in Parrott's Hospital the doctors marveled at the way he carried on. And they were quick to admit his diagnosis could be accepted almost every time.

Of course he saw death in its various forms, natural and accidental. Once he was summoned to witness the death of a white man who was hanged on the courthouse lawn in Kenansville, the last execution of this kind in our county.

Dr. Kennedy was a Baptist, a Shriner and a member of the N.C. Medical Association, but until his death, his work was his first love. He appreciated Greek and Latin classics and had an unusual knowledge of the Bible. It was his great faith in God that gave him such confidence as he must have had in himself to continue to the last to serve his people. On the night of his death, April 7, 1943 he made four calls after supper, and was stricken in one of the homes, dying "with his boots on" as he often had declared to be his wish.

Surely an appropriate epitaph for him could be found in these words: "In as much as ye have done it unto one of the least of these, my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

New Army College Fund

The Army College Fund (ACF) is now bigger and better with the maximum benefit increased to \$26,400 according to Lt. Col. Richard H. White, commander of U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion Raleigh.

"The Army is increasing Army College Fund benefits because we recognize that College costs will increase between the time the soldier enlists and the time he begins or returns to college," White said.

"Another major change in the ACF is that soldiers entering the Army with two years of college credit will earn an increased benefit. This change is in line with the Army's drive to recruit more soldiers with college backgrounds," White continued.

To take part in any of the ACF programs, the soldier must earn a high school diploma, be entering the Army for the first time, score in the top half on the Armed Forces aptitude test and enlist for skill training considered critical to Army needs.

The qualified soldier designates an amount between \$25 and \$100 to have deducted from his pay each month. The maximum soldier contribution is \$2,400 for a two-year enlistment and \$2,700 for a three or four-year enlistment. The government matches every dollar the soldier contributes with two more.

A qualified soldier who enlists for two years receives an additional \$8,000, bringing his Army College Fund to \$15,200. A soldier with two years of college credit gets a \$12,900 incentive, for a total Army College Fund of \$20,100. A three-year enlistment can net a \$20,100 ACF (\$12,000 incentive).

A \$26,400 ACF is possible for a four-year enlistment. The government contributes \$18,300 in addition to the two-for-one matching.

Army College Fund benefits may be used for any educational program which is approved by the Veterans Administration. Funds are paid directly to the soldier by the government.

Should the soldier not continue his education, the personal contribution of the soldier, but not the government's portion, will be returned in a lump sum.

"Anyone interested in taking part in the ACF should contact one of my recruiters," said White. "The recruiter will explain all aspects of the program, such as the job training skills options which are part of the requirement."

"I would like to stress the importance of prior planning," added White. "A prospective soldier can enlist up to one year in advance of reporting for active duty. This allows the individual a greater choice of training and maximum flexibility as to when the individual reports for training. The individual can enlist while still in high school or college and report for basic training after graduation."

"These new programs are designed to ensure that the Army continues to recruit high quality

young men and women. They are, after all, being entrusted with high technology equipment, not to mention the defense of our country," White concluded.

White is responsible for Army recruiting in 48 counties in eastern North Carolina. For more information, call S/SGT. Fitzgerald at 592-7991.

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Attention Voters

The following excerpts were included in the presentation of Commissioner Candidate P.C. Barwick to a membership meeting of the Lenoir County Chamber of Commerce last Thursday night:

"I have not always agreed with every Chamber stand. I opposed merger and still oppose it. I really thought that issue was settled in the 1982 election. All six of the candidates including myself in that general election opposed merger. Somehow the issue got resurrected. Nobody really seems to know why it was resurrected or if the same thing will happen again if the two Democrats are elected this time.

"As most of you know, I am actively supporting President Reagan, Senator Helms and Congressman Martin. I shall continue this support because I believe in these candidates. I hope that my Democrat opponents are supporting Mr. Mondale and their other candidates for the same reason.

"The real issue in this election is leadership — leadership which will get our county going. With your help and my pledge to you of my dedication and interest, I am confident I can provide that leadership. My Democrat opposition is asking you to keep the same status quo. Both of these opponents are products of the same age old machine in this county which seems to be more bent on maintaining "control" than providing the leadership or developing our economy. You don't have to drive very far to see that we have had a failure of ability and leadership in this county. Just drive to Greenville, Goldsboro, Jacksonville or New Bern — the facts are obvious. Our county has been too interested in maintaining a one party system and providing patronage for the supporters of that system.

"The appointment record of the local city and county governing boards to the Industrial Development Commission makes one suspect that the real reason for not expanding the IDC was to maintain their control. Until recently five of the six Board appointees to the commission were either present members or past members of the City Council or the County Commissioners.

"I ask both Mr. Creech and Mr. Langston to come out from behind their registration advantage and bloc vote and talk about the issues. The people of our county are entitled to it and I believe they demand it."

VOTE X
P. C. BARWICK
COMMISSIONER
"It's Time For A Change."



Paid for by P.C. Barwick for Commissioner Committee Sue Hunter — Treasurer

FOR RENT

Duplin County proposes to rent to the highest bidder on a three-year rental agreement, the grape vineyard (10 acres) and the cleared cropland (53.64 acres; one not contingent on the other) on the farm recently purchased by the County on SR 1918 near the Landfill. The legal description of the land is in Deed Book 931, page 766. The cleared cropland is located in 7 different fields. There are 10 wells that are not to be disturbed, and drainage easements in four different locations.

Interested bidders may obtain bid forms from the Landfill office or the County Finance office, Courthouse Annex, Room 221, P.O. Box 158, Kenansville, NC 28349-0158, or call 296-1591.

Bids will be received at the Duplin County Finance office, P.O. Box 158, 221 Courthouse Annex, Kenansville, NC 28349-0158 by 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 15, 1984.

Any or all bids may be rejected to the best interest of Duplin County.

Russell Tucker
Duplin County Finance Officer