



SON OF A GUN

by Joe Lanier

A couple of more things about Duplin Schools. (Please note, I said schools, not education). First off, the Duplin County school budget has been increased each year. The number of youngsters going to Duplin County schools has decreased by at least 100 per year for the past several years. Present kindergarten enrollment for next year shows even a greater decrease. Secondly, when anyone comes up with a good plan that can be explained with a point and purpose, I think most of Duplin is education-minded and would support it. . . What I mean is, if a subject such as calculus or another English course were the point of a new funding request, I think this would probably be done. . . But, to say we need more money and suggest they throw a thousand more dollars in this and another ten thousand into that, then the purpose of new money seems to be lost in a blunder of paperwork that does not serve the children of Duplin County. Who it does serve is obvious. Education and Health are two programs that have a non-satisfying appetite when it comes to money. . . Always more money can be put into these two. . . And there is good that comes from extra dollars. . . However, someone has to make the unpopular decision as to when to stop. . . The argument? . . . What price can you put on a life? . . . or . . . What price can you put on a child's education? . . . These begin to circulate and emotion begins to overshadow reason. But

Health and Education, as worthy as they are, should not hoard all the money. The members of the Board of Education and the members of the County Commissioners, were elected by the people of Duplin County to look after their interest. They were not elected to do as Ralph Cottle wants or as L.S. Guy wants. They were elected to direct Cottle and Guy and not be directed by them. Sometimes sitting on the outside looking in, the roles seem to reverse. . . Duplin County schools are not about to fall in. Duplin County has some of the finest teachers that can be found in any school system. . . Three terrific new projects are being handled with the present budget — ROTC, Open Court and ending open classrooms. . . Enough said about the school budget. . . I really didn't want to get into this until the county commissioners have set the funding for 1985-86. . . But, with all these little meetings of special interest groups going on around the county, I changed my plans. . . And, in fact, probably changed my opinion. . .

My wife's brother, Tony Braswell, and I were traveling through Georgia last week on the way to Florida, and walking beside I-95 was an animal. . . "There is an armadillo," said Tony. . . "I thought those things were in Texas," I replied. . . "I don't know," says he, "but if it wasn't an armadillo, then it was an opossum with an overcoat on." . . . Son-of-a-Gun. . .

THE LIBERTY CART, Randolph Umberger's exciting outdoor drama about the development of Eastern North Carolina during colonial times, will open its tenth season and local cast auditions are scheduled June 2 and 9 at the amphitheater in

Kenansville from 2-5 p.m. Auditionees will be asked to complete audition forms, read from the script, and interview with the staff. Persons are needed for technical work as well as acting. Previous

experience is not necessary, according to Jim Johnson, general manager. About 40 people of all ages, male and female, black and white, make up the local cast. Joan Ryan, director, said "There is a special need for two black males seven to 12 years of age to portray the roles of Peter Piestoe and Little Jonathan." Scripts may be obtained at the amphitheatre weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. "If you are willing to learn," Johnson said, "and give up a major portion of your evenings for a large part of the summer, all for a highly enjoyable and worthwhile effort, the THE LIBERTY CART is just the

thing for you. Many local people come back year after year and with experience they assume some of the major roles in the show." Johnson also pointed out all local actors and technical people are paid \$100 at the end of the season to help defray travel expenses. The LIBERTY CART will be performed Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings, July 12 through August 24 at 8:15. Auditions are June 2 and 9 from 2 until 5 p.m., and no appointments are necessary. Local cast rehearsals begin in mid-June. For additional information, contact THE LIBERTY CART, P.O. Box 470, Kenansville, NC 28349 or phone 296-0721.

DMA Closes Beulaville Office

Since 1980, the Duplin Medical Association, Inc. has provided medical care to the citizens in and around the Beulaville area. DMA announces the closing of the Beulaville office effective May 15. Beulaville patients may receive continued service at the offices listed: Rose Hill - 289-3027; Pink Hill - 1-800-682-3497

and 568-4111; and Warsaw - 293-3444.

Devane Joins Staff Of Duplin Home Care Inc.

Evenlyn Johnson DeVane has joined the staff of Duplin County Home Care, Inc.

Mrs. DeVane is a registered nurse who completed her nursing education from James Sprunt Technical College of Kenansville.

She later attended and completed the family nurse practitioner program at East Carolina University. Prior to her employment at DCHC, she was employed as a family nurse practitioner at Beatrice-Swift & Co. of Wallace.

Mrs. DeVane will be an asset with her expertise. Duplin County Home Care, Inc. provides home health services to persons within a 50-mile radius of Kenansville. These services include nursing, home health aide, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy, social work consultation, ancillary supplies, and durable medical equipment.

Mrs. DeVane and her husband and daughter reside in Magnolia.

Martin Vows To Let I-40 Contracts

Governor Jim Martin repeated his pledge to get the Interstate 40 extension completed in reasonable time during his appearance last week at the Duplin Municipal Association's May meeting.

"I-40 is the only road I promised, and I'll get it done. . . We'll get every mile under contract this term."

The stretch from N.C. 132 at Gordon Road in New Hanover County to N.C. 210 at Rock Point is nearing completion. Contracts have been awarded and construction begun on another stretch of the highway in northern Pender and Duplin counties.

About 200 people attended the meeting. Melvin Pope, a Magnolia town board member, introduced the governor.

Martin urged support for his effort to eliminate the intangibles tax, inventory tax and state sales tax on food and non-prescription drugs, saying that natural growth in the state's income will more than make up the lost money. He said his plans include making up the lost money to towns and counties from state funds. Only one-fourth of the anticipated growth income will be required to replace the lost money, he said.

leaving three-fourths for schools and other services.

May 31 Meeting Set By Co-Op

Billy W. Hill, president of Flue-Cured Tobacco Cooperative Stabilization Corporation, and Fred G. Bond, the co-op's general manager, jointly announced that the 39th annual membership meeting will be

held May 31 at the Kerr Scott Pavilion located at the N.C. State Fairgrounds beginning at 10 a.m. and adjourning around noon.

Following adjournment, there will be a complimentary barbecue lunch served to all in attendance.

J. Michael Moore, Duplin extension tobacco agent, encourages all growers to attend and take part in the business of their coop. Anyone wishing to ride with Moore should call 296-1996.

Duplin School Menus

June 3-7

Breakfast

- Mon. - sausage biscuit, cereal, juice, milk
- Tue. - buttered toast, cereal, juice, milk
- Wed. - cheese biscuit, cereal, juice, milk
- Thur. - cereal, juice, milk
- Fri. - manager's choice

Lunch

- Mon. - Pot Luck
- Tue. - beef over rice, roll, baked potato, mixed vegetables, fruited gelatin, combo sandwich
- Wed. - pizza, tossed salad, fruit cup, peanut butter bar
- Thur. - jumbo taco, lettuce and tomato, buttered corn, fruit bar
- Fri. - hot dog with bun, potato rounds, ice juicee, cookie

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