



Son of a Gun

by Joe Janier

They are spending tax money... We have to spend wages... Now, don't you think that is funny?... Son-of-a-Gun...

HOW'S YOUR HEAD FOR SAFETY?

Q. My neighbor recently saw a mound on our lawn and told me it could be fire ants. Are they dangerous...and if so, how do I get rid of them?

A. They are dangerous and you can get rid of them. Experts report fire ants are found nearly every-

where—on lawns, gardens, parks, athletic fields, range and farm lands. Persons or animals found allergic to fire ant bites suffer severe symptoms that include difficult breathing, chest pains, nausea, hives and sometimes death. Anyone bitten, whether allergic or not, will receive a burning, itchy sore or welt.

The most effective way to get rid of a fire ant mound is to kill the queen. This is done by using a bait that gets into the food chain. The death of the queen signals the end of the mound.

Pink Hill Town Board Meets

Kenneth Hamilton appeared before the Pink Hill board with a plea for assistance concerning his dismissal from the Pink Hill Fire Department.

Carol Sykes, town clerk, reported that she had received an estimate of \$241.92 from Alphin Exterminating

Co. for a job that was to include spraying the town hall. Upon discussion from the board, the group decided to handle the job themselves.

John Smith, C.P.A., was rehired to do the town audit for the coming year.

A letter was read from Jimmy Miles, son of the late Louise Miles. Mr. Miles serves as an attorney in Raleigh. The letter was in regard to a lease contract currently held between the Pink Hill Airport and the late Mrs. Miles, owner of the airport property. The current lease will expire in September. The airport

members are interested in obtaining a long-term lease in the future.

Fire Chief Preston Bryant appeared concerning the recent dismissal of Kenneth Hamilton, a Pink Hill fireman. The discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

Deputy Richard Stroud was present from the Lenoir County Sheriff's Department showing an interest in purchasing a radio, siren and blue light. The board agreed to sell the used equipment to the county for \$800.

The budget for the new year was discussed briefly.

Justice, it seems, is like beauty. It is in the eyes of the beholder. The Melvin Williams trial lasted for seven days. A jury out of Onslow County found him guilty of having Paul Osik burn his Pink Hill home and then collect \$43,490 insurance. The judge, Mary McLaughton Pope, a James Hunt appointee, sentenced him to not more than two years and not less than two years on the charge of fraudulently burning a dwelling, and on the other two felony charges she did the same for one year to begin at the expiration of the two-year term. In sentencing, when a judge says "not more than and not less than" it means the person being sentenced is immediately eligible for parole. The judge did not in her sentencing say Williams had to make restitution to the insurance company. Thus if the insurance company wants its money back, that was fraudulently received, they must sue Williams in a civil court. The judge also recommended work release immediately. The case was appealed and Williams was released after one day in jail under a bond of \$30,000. The day or night he spent in jail was the night he was found guilty and the day before sentencing.

Now for the justice part... There are two views... Some say he was sentenced too strongly, as he was not guilty... Others say it was a mockery of justice, and he was judged on politics rather than law — that a person convicted of stealing a \$50 hog gets more time, and it active, than he received for burning a home and receiving \$43,490 and not even having to pay it back. Others say his being convicted of three felonies will keep him out of politics and that is punishment enough. There are even those who say the jury didn't know what it was doing.

My opinion?... He was found guilty by a jury, found guilty on the evidence presented by the assistant district attorney. Williams' three lawyers were unable to put sufficient doubt in the jury's minds to cause them to find him not guilty. The judge, in my opinion, was too lenient; restitution should have been made and at least six months active sentence should have been imposed... Williams is not the first to get off too lightly, in my opinion. The attorney in Mount Olive, George Kornegay, who was convicted of spending his clients' money, is on work release working in his law office. This is not the first, and surely won't be the last. The system will not correct itself from the inside... I am not saying Williams is guilty or innocent. I am simply saying he was found guilty by a jury and should have been punished along those same lines... He should have received the same sentence that the average John Doe off the street would have gotten — no more, no less.

A funny thing happened on the way to work today... The county commissioners are combining the tax collection office and the tax listing office to save money... Well, what is so funny about that, you are probably wondering... Sounds like a fine idea... Been needed for quite a while... Well, under their reorganization plan, rather than a tax collector and a tax supervisor, they are proposing a tax administrator and a deputy tax administrator... The present tax collector is paid \$19,131 a year; the tax supervisor is paid \$21,860. The tax supervisor is also the Veterans Service Officer, but not under the new plan... Under the new plan, the tax administrator will be paid between \$20,888 and \$27,620. The tax administrator deputy will be paid between \$16,016 and \$20,888... Now, the two salary ranges are about the same. There is surely no money saving here... But wait, what about the new position, the Veterans Service Officer — a part-time position paying \$5.25 an hour for 24 hours a week, three days... That amounts to \$6,564.48 if this person works only those three days a week... That does not include a new office and utilities... And, of course, this person will have to go to a convention some place... Hey, the commissioners are going to save us some more money in July. They are going to Orlando, Florida to a convention. They will, of course, take the higher-paid help with them, all paid for by tax money... If they don't stop saving us money like this, we may go broke... Not them...

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<p align="center">LUNDY FRESH</p> <h2 align="center">NECK BONE</h2> <p align="center">29¢ LB.</p>	<p align="center">BEALES WHOLE</p> <h2 align="center">COUNTRY HAMS</h2> <p align="center">\$1.29 LB.</p> 	<p align="center">SLICED</p> <h2 align="center">BEEF LIVER</h2> <p align="center">69¢ LB.</p>
 <p align="center">(HOUSE OF RAEFORD) LEG QUARTERS</p> <p align="center">49¢ LB.</p>	 <h2 align="center">SHAWNEE FLOUR</h2> <p align="center">SELF-RISING (LIMIT 1 WITH \$12.50 FOOD ORDER)</p> <p align="center">5 LB. 69¢</p>	<p align="center">BONELESS</p> <h2 align="center">CHUCK ROAST</h2> <p align="center">\$1.49 LB.</p>
<p align="center">CRISCO OIL</p> <p align="center">48 OZ.</p> <p align="center">\$2.69</p>	<p align="center">DR. PEPPER, DIET DR. PEPPER</p> <p align="center">2 LITER</p> <p align="center">89¢</p>	<p align="center">VELVET ICE CREAM</p>  <p align="center">½ GAL.</p> <p align="center">\$1.39</p>
<p align="center">CHEF BOYARDEE BEEFOGETTI, RAVIOLI, SPAGHETTI & MEAT BALLS</p> <p align="center">7 ¼ OZ. CAN</p> <p align="center">2/89¢</p>	<p align="center">HUNT'S CATSUP</p> <p align="center">32 OZ.</p> <p align="center">79¢</p>	<p align="center">WHOLE RIB EYES</p> <p align="center">\$3.19 LB.</p>
<p align="center">QUAKER GRITS</p> <p align="center">5 LBS.</p> <p align="center">89¢</p>	<p align="center">DUNCAN HINES CAKE MIX</p> <p align="center">GOLDEN YELLOW & LEMON</p> <p align="center">79¢</p>	<p align="center">RIB EYE STEAK</p> <p align="center">\$3.49 LB.</p>
<p align="center">FAB KING SIZE</p> <p align="center">\$2.99</p>	<p align="center">PRIDE OF FARM CORN</p> <p align="center">303 CAN</p> <p align="center">3/\$1.00</p>	<p align="center">BONELESS STEW BEEF</p> <p align="center">\$1.89 LB.</p>
<p align="center">HOT SHOT FLY SPRAY</p> <p align="center">\$1.89</p>	<p align="center">COKE, MELLO YELLO, DIET COKE</p> <p align="center">2 LITER</p> <p align="center">89¢</p>	<p align="center">CHEF BOYARDEE PIZZA</p> <p align="center">79¢</p>
<p align="center">PALMOLIVE DETERGENT</p> <p align="center">22 OZ.</p> <p align="center">89¢</p>	 <p align="center">CHATHAM DOG FOOD</p> <p align="center">50 LB.</p> <p align="center">\$6.69</p>	<p align="center">CABBAGE</p> <p align="center">12¢ LB.</p> <p align="center">WATERMELON</p> <p align="center">28 LB. AVERAGE</p> <p align="center">\$2.89</p> <p align="center">BANANAS</p> <p align="center">29¢ LB.</p>