



STUDENT RECOGNIZED—Maru Amburn, a senior at John A. Holmes High School, recently was named First District winner of the VFW Voice of Democracy contest. She was awarded a \$100 U. S. Savings Bond at a district meeting Sunday at Sunbury. Pictured with her are, from left: Hubert Perkins of Charlotte, state junior vice commander; Col. Ed Bass of Edenton, district commander; Mrs. Virginia Evans of Wilson, state auxiliary president; and Bob Knowlton of Elizabeth City, state senior vice commander. (See Public Parade).

Public Parade

Report From Sunbury

It is difficult to determine when a writer feels more inadequate—when he stares at a blank piece of paper and the words won't come forth, or when his heart is so filled with the subject and the words won't come forth.

The latter is our problem this week. But we'll try and hope to be forgiven for our shortcomings.

Well, we went up to Sunbury last Sunday to the First District VFW meeting.

For several years Col. Ed Bass has corralled us to be a judge in the VFW Voice of Democracy contest. As a judge we felt we got more out of the project than the youngsters who wrote their speeches and cut the tapes. It sorta gave us a renewed feeling of patriotism and faith in future generations. We were often times astounded by their knowledge of the subject, their logic, and the enthusiasm they demonstrated for their Nation.

This year, however, it was not convenient for us to come to Ed's aid, and it proved to be a good thing. Our eldest daughter, Maru, won the contest along the Public Parade. She went on to be chosen as the best among more than 140 students in the district.

And that is how we got to Sunbury. We went along with another of our critics to sit in the shadow of a very articulate senior at John A. Holmes High School.

The tears that came to our eyes as she presented her speech to the group in Sunbury came not so much from the words she spoke but from the pride we felt in knowing she had done it herself. We heard it only once before, the night before she cut her tape for the judging and we didn't change a word.

We are confident the parents of Henry Hull of Cape Hatteras, second place winner, and Joanne Wood of Albemarle Academy in Elizabeth City, were equally as proud of their child's accomplishments.

Maru was mindful enough to not only thank the VFW for the opportunity to participate in such a worthwhile project but to

Continued On Page 4



CANDIDATE CAMPAIGNS IN EDENTON — Mayor Roy L. Harrell, right, is pictured here with State Sen. Tom Strickland of Wayne County, a Democratic candidate for governor. Sen. Strickland campaigned in Northeastern North Carolina this week.

Town Seeks Suit Dismissal

The Town of Edenton and town councilmen have answered a law suit which following rezoning the Ward property on Highway 32 near the U. S. 17 by-pass, claiming the complaint "fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted" and asks that the action be dismissed.

The answer further denies that the council's action constitutes spot zoning and denies all claims of irregularities in such action. It is contended that all the council's action was valid, a contention the court is asked to confirm.

A law suit was brought in

November, 1975, against the town and individual councilmen, W. B. Gardner, administrator, and W. G. Matthews, building inspector. It was brought by N. J. George and his wife, Loraine Burns, John A. Mitchener, III, James G. Blount and Byron P. Kehayes.

Involved are two parcels of land, 10 acres in each, which were rezoned. One was rezoned from R-20 to highway commercial when the council adopted a zoning ordinance update and new zoning map, the other from R-20 to shopping center upon petition from the property owners.

The suit alleges that council did not have the authority to rezone the tract as highway commercial at the time the map was approved.

In the answer, drafted by the Elizabeth City law firm of White, Hall, Mullen and Brumsley, cites the May, 1968, comprehensive land development plan adopted by the town that determined the property in question to have the best use as commercial.

It was noted that the by-pass "has drastically changed the highest and best use of the land and area commensurate with the needs of the community." It is

contended that the land is no longer attractive for residential use and the council's action reflects due consideration of these facts and are in full accord of same.

It is further stated that the council's action of August 12, 1975 was action of the council without regard to request by private persons. The rezoning of the other tract to shopping center was done under the old ordinance on application from B. F. Burroughs and W. J. P. Earnhardt, Jr., owners.

Continued on Page 4

One Is Fined; One Is Jailed

Two defendants pleaded guilty in Chowan County District Court Tuesday to third offense of drunk driving and Judge John T. Chaffin gave one an active sentence while the other received a suspended sentence upon payment of \$1,000 fine.

Clarence August Stallings, 52, was given 12 months in prison after Asst. Dist. Atty. Richard Parker told the jurist this was actually the defendant's sixth conviction since 1963.

Stallings gave notice of appeal. Victor Felton Oliver, 26, was given 18 months on a similar offense. The sentence was suspended upon payment of \$1,000 fine and costs and other conditions.

In other cases called, the judge took the following action:

Golden Asro Frinks, drunk driving, 90 days, suspended upon payment of \$100 fine and costs. Notice of appeal entered.

Mary Atamanchuk Williams, speeding, order of arrest.

Willis Henry Keys, Jr., speeding, \$15 fine and costs; no operator's license, dismissed.

Peter Nils Davis, speeding, \$10 fine and costs.

Lenhart Rascoe, Jr., reckless driving and failure to report an accident, 30 days, suspended upon payment of \$100 fine and costs.

John R. Sultan, improper

Continued On Page 4

Discuss Grants

A meeting of the Albemarle Association of Counties and Towns will be held Friday night to discuss local planning grants administered by the Division of Community Assistance, Department of Natural & Economic Resources.

T. R. Spruill, chairman, said the meeting will begin at 7 o'clock at Angler's Cove in Perquimans County.

He noted that important information will be made available and attendance of county commissioners, city councilman, city and county managers and coordinators in the 10-county area is urged.

A dutch seafood dinner will be served.



WELCOMED TO MEETING—C. A. Phillips, right, chairman of Chowan County commissioners, is shown above as he welcomes Mr. and Mrs. Leon Ballance of Engelhard to the AADA Community Development Awards banquet at the American Legion Building in Edenton. Ballance is a past AADA president and former chairman of Hyde County commissioners.



AWARD WINNERS—Miss Essie Lee Pullman, left, of Hudson Grove community, and Robert W. Moore, representing Chowan County, hold first place trophies given Thursday night at the Albemarle Area Development Association's Community Development Awards banquet here. Raleigh Carver of Elizabeth City, center, AADA president; and Mrs. Leon Powell of Currituck, vice president, East, are also shown.

Chowan Designated Top County In Area Dog Owners Are Warned

Chowan County has been recognized by the Albemarle Area Development Association as the top county in the area for 1975.

Chowan was cited for development of the first county-wide water system in Eastern North Carolina as well as expansion of industry, the agricultural economy and community action.

Robert Moore, executive vice president of Edenton Chamber of Commerce, accepted the prize trophy from Mrs. Lillie C. James of Washington County.

Also, Hudson Grove Community in Chowan County won the top honors for small communities (under 65 families) for the second consecutive year. Accepting the

award was Miss Essie Lee Pullman.

The winners were announced at the American Legion Building in Edenton last Thursday night in the first Community Development and County Awards held by the 10-county area association. In the past the awards have been included at the annual meeting.

Raleigh Carver of Elizabeth City, AADA president, said the region has been successful in development of community leaders through the community development program.

Mrs. Leon Powell, vice president, East, directed the program which included three-minute talks by representatives of nine communities about their

action programs during the past year. She noted that there is "no limit to what communities can do if we want to."

Mrs. M. B. Taylor of Perquimans County presented the full conservation contest award to Clarence Felton. This is the third consecutive year he has been recognized for his gardening.

Gum Neck Community in Tyrrell County won first place in

Continued On Page 4

Meeting Slated

The 35th annual meeting of Chowan Credit Union will be held January 22 at 7:30 P.M. at Kadesh A.M.E. Zion Church on East Gale Street. The meeting is called by the board of directors, A. C. Hudson, president.

Dr. H. L. Mitchell of Gatesville, a popular Albemarle Area minister and community leader, will be the guest speaker. The public is invited to attend.

In addition to Hudson, credit unit officers are: Grady Sessoms, vice president; and Dr. J. H. Horton, secretary-treasurer.

Dog Owners Are Warned

Police Chief J. D. Parrish warned dog owners this week that enforcement of the town's leash ordinance will be tightened. He said one arrest has been made and others who violate the ordinance will be prosecuted.

Capt. C. H. Williams has been designated as humane officer.

The ordinance states that "it shall be unlawful for any owner or keeper of any dog to permit such dog to run at large."

"At large" is defined in the law as "off the premises of the owner, and not under the control of the owner or a member of his immediate family of other responsible person, either by leash, cord, chain, or confined within a motor vehicle being operated by the owner or a member of his immediate family."

Dogs impounded can be redeemed by the owner after getting a license, having the dog vaccinated if vaccination is not within date, pay capture and

Continued On Page 4

Strickland Campaigns Here

State Sen. Thomas (Tom) E. Strickland, a Democratic contender for the office of governor, campaigned in Edenton Tuesday as part of his Eastern North Carolina political tour.

Sen. Strickland, who believes people should get involved with what is happening in the government, says local government should become stronger and we will have less problems stemming from the state and federal government being miles away from the people.

In campaigning, Sen. Strickland talked of his work while in the state legislature. Several bills that he sponsored include a minimum standards and salaries act for law enforcement officers; the electronic voting bill, which put every State Senator on record for his vote; and the Presidential Preference Primary law giving each voter the right to nominate

the President of the United States.

Sen. Strickland led the effort which defeated the move by Lt. Gov. Jim Hunt to abolish majority rule in the primaries. He also supported efforts to establish the Criminal Justice Academy and for education of law enforcement officers in police academies and community college systems.

Points of Sen. Strickland's platform include the decentralization of prison facilities; expansion of and improvement of agricultural research and trade opportunities; tax incentives should be provided; and strong support for mental health and vocational rehabilitation programs.

Sen. Strickland is from Wayne County. He is 45 years old and married to the former Shirley Lancaster. They have a son, Larry and a daughter, Ruth Ann. Both are teenagers.



OFFICERS INSTALLED — Jimmy Yates assumed duties as master of Unanimity Lodge 7 A. F. & A. M., as he and a new slate of officers were sworn in by W. P. Goodwin, installation officer. Ceremonies were held last Thursday night with Masons and their guests attending. Shown above, from left to right, the officers are: first row, W. A. Crummey, senior warden; Yates, master; and Mickey Spruill, junior steward. Second row, Raymond Tarkington, senior deacon; J. D. Elliott, senior warden; and George Midgette, junior warden. Third row, Roy Leary, treasurer; W. P. Goodwin, secretary; Kenneth Armstrong, tyler; and Elijah White, junior deacon. Not pictured is Marvin Barham, chaplain, and Clarence White, marshal.