

Easier Access

Handicapped persons now have easier access to Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library. A sidewalk has been placed between the library at the Cupola Garden fence. It terminates at the double side door of the library. John Taylor pointed this out to us Wednesday morning with a great deal of pride. He was one of the prime movers in the project to make it more attractive for our handicapped citizens to make use of the splendid library facilities along the Public Parade.

Service Recognized

Dist. Atty. William C. Griffin, Jr., of Williamston, sent us a copy of a letter he wrote Sheriff Troy Toppin. We feel everyone along the Public Parade will applaud this recognition of the service performed.

Here it is: "I want to personally thank you for your help and concern during the trial of the Davis killers. I know that it was a great burden on you, your staff, and the people of Chowan County. All of you responded in a fashion that deserves the highest praise. No one could have asked any more than all of you gave, and I am convinced that your assistance contributed directly to the conviction which was obtained. "If I can ever be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call on me. Perhaps I can partially repay the debt that I and my fellow citizens owe you."

Additional Hardware

The first place trophy for community development in the Albemarle Area was presented to Chowan County commissioners Monday.

Robert W. Moore, chamber executive and community development chairman along with Public Parade, said the award means "Chowan County is the most progressive in the 10-county Albemarle Area Development Association."

Chairman C. A. Phillips was quick to respond. "We feel like Chowan County is a leader in the area. It is good to have it confirmed from time to time."

But garnering area awards is getting to be old hat along the Public Parade. First place honors have come this way in 1970, 1973, and 1975. Chowan had to settle for second place in 1971, 1972, and 1974. This type hardware is always welcomed.

Those who meander along the Public Parade enjoy a pleasing balance among various aspects of community affairs. They are governed by progressive leaders, both in the county and the Town of Edenton.

Townfolk supported the county's bond issue for the water system while the county supports the town's plan to develop a recreation program which is almost unheard of in a county of this size.

These are but a couple of the areas in which there is evidence of people-oriented programs. And there are several instances in which our neighbors have held up a decision on something waiting to see which direction our leaders take.

While we have sometimes become impatient with the manner in which some local government functions are Continued on Page 4

Co-op To Meet

There will be a meeting to discuss the cooperative peanut warehouse at the Rocky Hock Rescue Squad Building on Monday night at 7:30 o'clock, states Eugene Jordan, chairman.

The committee appointed by the Farm Bureau has met to see if there was interest in this project and has decided to have this meeting so that every peanut farmer in Chowan County will have an opportunity to take part in this discussion. This will also be a means of determining the amount of interest in such an undertaking.

If you are at all interested in the project, please make an effort to attend, as if anything is to be done in 1976 it must be started soon.

System Construction Progressing

Forty-four miles of pipe will be added to the Chowan County water system as a result of action taken Monday by county commissioners. It will mean the system will have 212 miles of pipe with even additional lines anticipated prior to completion. At the suggestion of Rivers & Associates, Greenville engineers

on the project, the board voted unanimously to delete a costly section of pipe around the U. S. 17 by-pass and delay a line on the Chowan-Perquimans line. This would save some \$142,000 on the current contract with Bryant Utilities.

Chairman C. A. Phillips said with these savings the county can serve more people. "We are going to be able to serve a great majority of the people who want water," he added.

Tom Harwell, engineer, outlined the extensions that were well scattered throughout the county.

In a progress report, Harwell said:

-Steel work has been completed on the water tank located at Welch;

-Concrete is ready to be poured at the Valhalla treatment plant; --Four wells have been completed, tested and approved; --Some 540 services have been put in;

-Pipeline installation can be completed in three weeks; and

-Some difficulty has been encountered in running pipe to some 250 potential users because of construction of the U. S. 17 by-pass.

Robert W. Moore, executive vice president of Edenton Chamber of Commerce and chairman of the county's community development committee, presented the board with a trophy given by Albemarle

Largest Dividend Paid During 1975

1976 is expected to be another highly successful year for Edenton Savings & Loan Association. This was predicted Monday night by J. Clarence Leary, Sr., president, at the annual stockholder's meeting.

Leary noted that the largest dividend ever paid, \$509,412, was paid in 1975. This was up from \$442,277 the previous year. Also, in efforts to assist families in the community to own their homes the association made 120 loans which amounted to \$2,418,300, and brought the total mortgage loans to \$9,139,340.

Total assets as of December 31, 1975, stood at \$10,280,143, which is an increase of \$1,312,944 over the previous year.

"The officers and directors of your association perform their duties under constant obligations, first to our savers by providing a safe place for their savings, then to the community at large by making loans to qualified applicants," the president said, "These thrift and home financing services are vital to the welfare of all communities and it is a source of considerable pride that this institution makes an important contribution in this area."



FIRST TANK ERECTED—The first tank in the Chowan County water system has been erected near Welch, on Highway 32 north of Edenton. It now stands ready for inspection and painting. Work on installing the pipe is nearing completion. (Allan Asbell Photo).

Absentee Voting Is Allowed

"Absentee voting will be allowed in the March 23 presidential primary," according to Mrs. Opal Kehayes, chairman, Chowan County Board of Elections.

The first day for issuing the ballots will be February 23. This is also the last day to register to be eligible to vote in the presidential primary or change an address or voting precinct.

Mrs. Kehayes points out the two options for voting absentee.

The simplest option is what is referred to as "one-stop". The person wishing to vote absentee may come to the elections board office in the County Office, Building between February 23 and 10 A. M. on March 17 and sign the application for absentee voting and then mark the presidential primary ballot. Since all applications have to be approved by the elections board, the ballots will be held until the application is approved, then the ballot will be cast.

If unable to appear in person, a voter may write the board of

DeBlois, Small Head Drive

Morris Small and Mike DeBlois have been selected to head the business and industrial solicitation for the Heart Fund in Chowan County. Their appointment was announced this week by Verne Cayton, president of the campaign here.

Small is manager of the Northside Branch of Bank of North Carolina, N. A. DeBlois is assistant manager of Atlantic Credit Corporation here.

Cayton said this rounds out the Heart Fund organization which will function during the month of February. He added that Business Day and industrial solicitation will be announced at a later date.

Mrs. Evelyn Keeter is campaign treasurer. Mrs. A. F. Downum, Jr., is spearheading Heart Sunday, which is February 22. The Student Government Association at John A. Holmes High School is also assisting in the campaign as well as the Extension Homemakers, under the direction of Mrs. Fran Ward.

elections for an application which will be mailed. When it is completed and returned to the board, and if approved, the ballot will be mailed to the voter.

Or a member of the immediate family of the absentee voter may make application for the person and the ballot will be mailed to the voter. A member of the immediate family is a parent, child, wife, husband, brother, sister or grandparent.

The applications do not have to be notarized, but the affidavit on each ballot envelope must be notarized.

A person who is permanently physically disabled may also vote absentee and must follow the guidelines above. However, anyone becoming ill after March 17 at 10 A. M. may still vote absentee.

Polling precincts open on election day for the primary at 6:30 A. M. and close at 7:30 P. M.

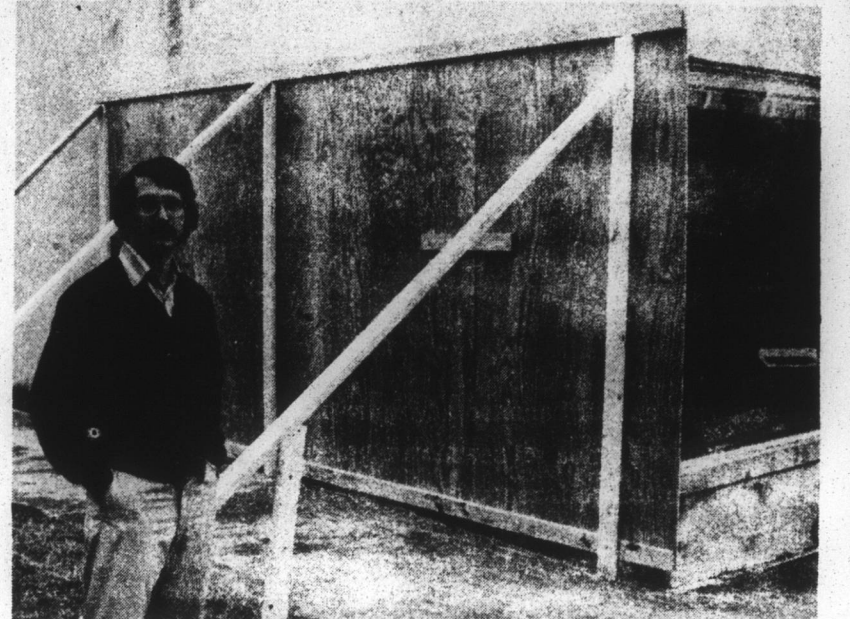


LIBERTY SHIP BEACHED—The unplanned Outer Banks tourist attraction is a 500-foot-long vessel, the Betelgeuse, which came ashore near Salvo in Dare County January 17 after being cut loose from a tug in the Atlantic Ocean. While it is drawing untold thousands of tourists it is a matter of concern not only for the owners—Luria Brothers Company of New York—but those who fear it might come apart and spill a reported 75,000 gallons of fuel oil said to be aboard. And it was not without its lighter side. Shortly after the ship was beached in 15-foot water near Rodanthe, Mack Midgette tied a rope to the side, anchored it on the beach and sent word to the owners that he was ready to negotiate for its return. Bill Gardner, Jr., Edward Wood and Paul Amburn relax on the rusty anchor during a recent inspection trip. The other picture shows them being supervised by W. B.

Area Development Association for top place in community development.

The board approved a resolution from Economic Improvement Council concerning a housing application.

Also, the board voted to participate in the WIC (Women, Infants, and Children) Project being conducted by the District Health Department. It was explained that it was earlier Continued On Page 4



DAMAGED BY WINDS—Edenton Office Supply was the only permanent structure reported to have been damaged by the hurricane force winds that swept the Albemarle area, Sunday night. Kermit Layton, Jr., shown in above photo, stated that low pressure seems to have been the cause of the glass shattering. "Hawk" Crummey of the Edenton E&W Department reported power outage in the northeastern portion of the town due to burn-out of a 2,400 volt primary line on Park Avenue, and Cape Colony section experienced a loss of electricity when a 7,200 volt line on Base Road burned out during the storm. Winds of 60 miles per hour were recorded in Edenton, but in relation to damages assessed in locations eastward to the Outer Banks, the town fared very well by comparison.

Fiscal Control Act Causes Stir

By Flynn Surratt

Edenton - Chowan Schools will seek to join several school systems across the state as a pilot unit for implementing the Fiscal Control Act which becomes law on July 1, it was revealed at the meeting of the board of education, Monday night.

Dr. John Dunn, superintendent, reported that school systems in North Carolina are experiencing problems with developing a budget format that would ease compliance with the mandate. It calls for all budget line items to show expenditures and income from state and federal sources.

He said that the State Board of Education in conjunction with the Local Government Commission will make final selection on 10 or more units who will develop a uniform system of reporting that will become mandatory by 1977.

Two other alternatives reviewed by the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education included working parallel to the pilots but not as one, or operating as in the past and complying with the law as best as possible.

An inspector of the State Bureau

of Boiler Inspection has put the heat on the schools, calling for replacement of all boilers in the school system beginning with Holmes High at the end of firing season.

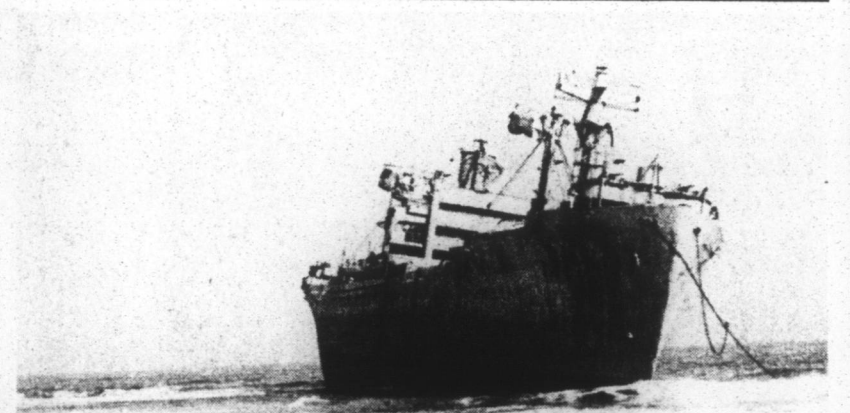
Harold B. Givens, inspector, informed the board by letter that he had authorized temporary repairs to the Holmes High School boilers with the understanding that they will be replaced before the next firing season.

He cited them as safety hazards and recommended that the replacements be oil fueled rather than fueled by coal. He also advised the board to replace all other boilers in the system at a rate of two per year.

Rudolph Dale, president of the Edenton Aces Booster Club, informed the board that final payment has been made on the purchase of a Universal Weight Machine at Holmes High. The purchase was made possible by a \$1,500 contribution from the high school and by five members of the Booster Club who signed a \$1,200 note.

Dale also urged the board to

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Gardner. At the time the ship was beached it was enroute to a Texas scrap yard after being purchased for some \$200,000. The U. S. Coast Guard has been supervising operations at the site. The 6,500-ton vessel, which is broadside on the beach, has begun to list about 20 degrees to port as a result of severe wind and waves during a weekend storm. While people in responsible positions studied the alternatives, restaurants and service stations did a booming off-season business.