

James Seeks Road Money

State Rep. Vernon James of the First House District will renew his efforts in the 1977 General Assembly to have a one-cent levy added to the tax on gasoline for the improvement of secondary roads.

While members of Chowan County commissioners Monday morning generally agreed with the proposal of Rep. James they did not act on his request for endorsement.

"The extra money would be earmarked for county commissioners and it would be distributed according to population and unpaved mileage," he said. He went on to say this would be the county's equal to the Powell Bill for municipalities.

He said he supports the Powell Bill because municipalities need the funds, but that fund is now greater than the amount available to counties for secondary road construction.

The Pasquotank County representative went on to say he favored a change in the formula for distribution of secondary road monies. "But," he added, "I am not foolish enough to think I can change it."

Commissioner Alton G. Elmore said he didn't think secondary road money should be used to widen roads when unpaved roads remain in the county.

Earlier in his remarks the legislator expressed interest in reviving regular meetings of the elected officials which was formed by Albemarle Area Development Association from earlier meetings he had recommended.

He cited the importance of the area having a united "effort of what we want for our area" with the main objective being to help Eastern North Carolina.

At one point Rep. James noted that he had been the subject of criticism in The Chowan Herald for not adequately representing this county. "I want to assure the commissioners of my full cooperation," he said.

"I believe in doing the job when it has to be done," he pledged.

Agreement Is Problem

Edenton-Chowan Board of Education is seeking to void an agreement with Chowan County Board of Commissioners concerning the use of a recreation area at Chowan High School.

The board has been advised that use of the facility by Chowan Academy would jeopardize federal funds coming to the schools.

Commissioners discussed the problem in a special meeting Tuesday night attended by Dr. John Dunn, superintendent.

Commissioner Alton G. Elmore, who has spearheaded the recreation program and fought for expansion of facilities at Chowan High, said he couldn't understand why an agreement everyone was so enthusiastic about several years ago had suddenly gone sour. "We have the same school board and the same commissioners now that we had when the agreement was executed and at the time no one could foresee any problems," he said.

The agreement states that the schools have priority but after normal school hours the area "will be used under the direction of the recreational director."

It further states: "It is understood and agreed between the parties hereto that an establish-

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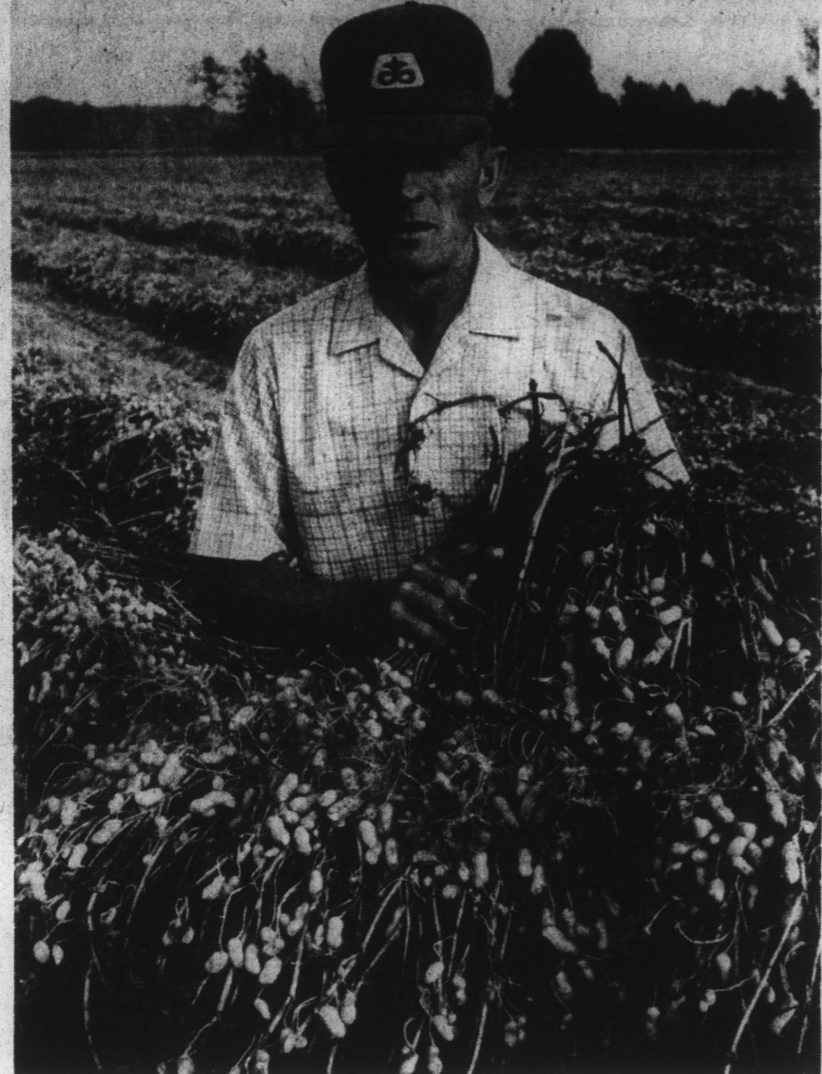
District Court

Junious Alexander Cofield and Robert Lee Wilder were given first appearance instructions Tuesday morning in Chowan County District Court. They are charged with the larceny of a stump puller from Byrum Farms, Inc.

Judge Grafton G. Beaman presided over the brief session at which Asst. Dist. Atty. Chris Bean prosecuted.

John Paul Pierce was convicted of a fishing violation. He was ordered to pay a fine of \$75 and court costs.

Charles Whitehurst was found guilty of issuing a worthless check. He was given 20 days, suspended upon payment of costs and ordered to make restitution.



PEANUT HARVEST TIME—While it was feared that dry weather this summer would have an adverse effect on the Chown County peanut crop, estimates are that the yield will be high and the market prices good. Those are least things on the minds of local farmers like Lindsey Ray Bunch, who has been busy in recent days harvesting peanuts and preparing them for market. In the photos Bunch is shown displaying a handful of his favorite cash crop just prior to combining and later as the hopper is unloaded into a waiting truck. (Surratt Photos.)



Public Parade

Follow The Leader

Well, we went out to the Edenton Jaycee Community Building last Thursday night to enjoy some belly laughs from "North Carolina's own down-home humorist." What we witnessed was one of the most enjoyable chamber membership banquets in more than a decade.

L. M. Willard of Madison, the banquet speaker, didn't show. When he was called he had the banquet calendared for October 30 (another important day along the Public Parade) instead of September 30.

Robert W. Moore was embarrassed. Morris Small didn't have anyone to introduce.

The chain of events probably brought more chuckles than Mr. Willard could have produced. Anyway, it gave more time for the spotlight to shine on Mrs. Bertha B. Bunch who received the Senior Citizens Award.

Mrs. Bunch, the darling of public servants along the Public Parade, told those in attendance she didn't consider herself a Senior Citizen until she got up to accept the award.

Age is a closely guarded secret between Mrs. Bunch and us. For that reason we would not dare nominate her for the award she so richly deserves.

Dr. Jerry Downum told it like it is when he said the chamber has a restrictive budget; therefore we must move forward with "imagination and hard work." If we follow the example set by Mrs. Bunch then we won't have to worry about the future of the organization, or the entire community for that matter.

Tackling The Problem

We want to be among the first to congratulate State Rep. Vernon James of the Isle of Pasquotank for the role he is playing in reviving the association of elected officials along the Public Parade and throughout the Albemarle Area.

This is an independent group which could have provided the adequate forum to keep the regional monster from getting out of hand. The only problem was that one man was chairman of both.

If regional problems are to be solved then there must be frank

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Law Officers Banquet Set

Howard Kramer of the N. C. Attorney General's office, will be keynote speaker for the sixth annual Appreciation Banquet for Law Enforcement Officers of Chowan County.

Sponsored by Edward G. Bond Post 40, American Legion, this affair will be held on October 14 beginning at 7:30 P.M. at the legion building on U. S. 17 South.

E. C. Toppin, commander, reported that tickets will be \$4 per person and may be purchased before noon, October 12 at the following locations:

In Edenton, from Pete Dail at Edenton Savings and Loan; Mrs. Lena Leary at the Chowan County Courthouse; West Byrum at Byrum Insurance Agency; Fran Ward at the Chowan County Office Building; and Charles Hollowell.

Rocky Hock residents may purchase tickets at W. E. Smith Grocery or from Carlton Perry.

In Center Hill they are available from Carlton Asbell or Melvin Byrum at M & R Service Center.

Ticket sales in the Gliden area are being handled by L. C. Briggs at Brigg's Grocery.

At Crossroads from R. E. Evans or Carroll Byrum

George Stokes is providing tickets for Cape Colony.

Toppin also added that he can be reached at 482-2249

Chamber Awards Mrs. Bunch

Mrs. Bertha B. Bunch, Chowan County Register of Deeds, is the first woman to receive the Senior Citizen Award from Edenton Chamber of Commerce. The presentation highlighted the annual membership banquet Thursday night at Edenton Jaycee Community Building.

Dr. A. F. Downum, Jr., is the new president and Jack Evans, immediate past president, becomes an ex-officio member of the board of directors.

ALOA To Meet

The executive committee of Albemarle Law & Order Association will meet at Mrs. Boswell's Restaurant at 10:30 A.M. today (Thursday).

R. L. Spivey, president, said it will be a "Dutch treat" luncheon and members will be briefed on the latest information regarding present and future law and order funding.

The association covers law enforcement in the 10 Albemarle Area counties.



RECEIVES AWARD—Mrs. Bertha B. Bunch, Chowan County Register of Deeds, is the 1976 winner of the Senior Citizens Award presented by Edenton Chamber of Commerce. Admiring the award with her is C. A. Phillips, chairman of county commissioners.

Due to a mix up L. M. Willard of Madison, who was to be the banquet speaker, did not attend.

C. A. Phillips, chairman, Chowan County Board of Commissioners to which Mrs. Bunch serves as clerk, made the presentation. Phillips said the recipient joins a long line of very distinguished citizens and he is an ardent admirer of her.

He noted that Mrs. Bunch's family has provided may leaders in Edenton and Chowan County and she steps down later this year after 51 years of experience in the register of deeds office.

Mrs. Bunch, who serves as secretary of the chamber, said she "appreciated it (the honor) more than you will ever know." She went on to urge the community to continue to give support to the chamber.

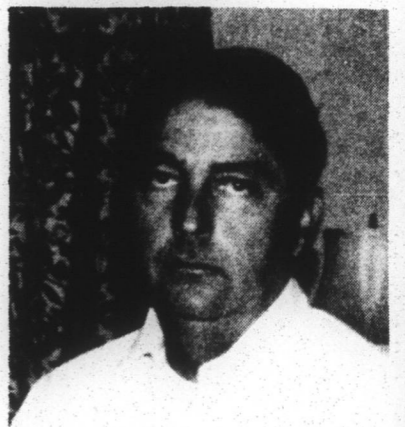
In his remarks, Dr. Downum challenged those attending to make the organization "your chamber" for the coming year. He called for more involvement.

"While we have a restrictive budget we can make up for it with imagination and hard work," he said.

J. H. Conger, Jr. is chairman of a membership drive which began Friday morning at a breakfast at Mrs. Boswell's Restaurant.



AT BANQUET—Dr. A. F. Downum, Jr., center, is the new president of Edenton Chamber of Commerce. Shown with him at last Thursday's annual membership banquet are Mrs. Downum and Jack Evans, immediate past president.



Thomas E. Ward

Death Claims Mr. Ward, 46

Graveside services were held Wednesday for Thomas Edward Ward, 110 Morris Circle. The services were conducted at 11 A.M. by Dr. Robert E. Gray and Rev. R. N. Carroll in Beaver Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Ward, 46, a prominent Chowan County farmer, died suddenly at Chowan Hospital early Monday morning after being stricken at his home.

He was the son of the late Joseph H. and Martha Bunch Ward and the husband of Mrs. Betty Byrum Ward, who survives.

In addition to his wife, surviving are two sons: Thomas Edward Ward, Jr., and Joseph Albert Ward, both of Edenton; five sisters: Mrs. Elsie W. Evans, Miss Mildred Ward, Mrs. Myrtle W. Leary and Miss Kathleen Ward, all of Edenton; and Mrs. Clara W. Storey of San Marcos, Tex.; and a half-sister, Mrs. Cora Bunch of Edenton.

He was a member of Edenton Baptist Church and a veteran of the U. S. Air Force.

Williford-Barham Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Allocated Funds

The Town of Edenton has been allocated \$63,301.85 in Powell Bill funds. This is part of \$30-million in State Street Aid going to 446 North Carolina municipalities.

Gov. James E. Holshouser, Jr., noted that the checks would be received this week since the law requires that qualified municipalities receive one cent of the eight-cent state tax on gasoline and that checks be disbursed no later than October 1.

Department of Transportation (DOT) Secretary G. Perry Greene stated that his staff is preparing the checks based on the allocation formula prescribed by the Powell Bill, which takes into consideration the population of the community and its local street mileage.

"This year's sum of more than \$30-million in the largest amount ever returned to North Carolina communities under the Powell Bill provisions," explained Sec. Greene.