

Public Parade

Look At Chowan

Joe Vaughan, a member of the editorial staff of the Parker Bros., publishing stable over in Ahoskie, recently did a three-part series on action and reaction to one of the greatest assets along the Public Parade—the Chowan River.

We happened to be on his interview list and attempted to "tell it like it is" regarding local feeling concerning his subject.

The series ended last week and we found it extremely refreshing to have an "investigative" reporter be so objective. It just hardly ain't done that way any more.

We found the information gathered and written by Mr. Vaughan so informative that we told Joe Parker it was good enough to circulate to the subscribers along the Public Parade. With that credit applied, we begin the series in this week's newspaper.

A General Policy

From time to time we are asked by friend and foe why we do not research and comment on matters pertaining to state and federal government. Frankly, we think those who meander along the Public Parade get sufficient exposure from either and-or the boob tube or the gliberal press.

We do have opinions, generally reduced to local participation on the impact or issues on the local citizenry. It is certainly not because we are attempting to "snooker" you or keep from you information which we feel you should know. It is just that running a "family" or "community" newspaper requires different policies and standards than those of newspapers with wider circulation.

As a publisher, we welcome your comments — good and bad. We do not obligate ourselves to be offended by what we do which is bad, nor do we get the swell head about what, if the occasion arises, we do something good for the community.

It is our opinion that every question, etc., should stand on its own bottom. If a fairer test is available we welcome it. Our general policy is not set in concrete, as some would lead you to believe.

If you like us, we will not get the swell-head, if you don't like, we won't have a chip on our shoulder. Fairness, to which we are not only obligated but dedicated, doesn't work that way.

Get Aquarium Open

The bureaucracy is a vehicle which, unlike automobiles, has the capacity to travel sideways as well as backward and forward. And in most cases it operates ever so quietly. And in many cases the pollution discharged is greater

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WHY A NEW FACILITY?



SIDEWALK CONFERENCE — Dist. Atty. Tom Watts of Elizabeth City, center, conducts a sidewalk conference with two local attorneys, Merrill Evans, Jr., left, and John Morehead, outside the Chowan County Courthouse. There is no suitable place in the historic courthouse for attorneys to confer with clients and they have been known to stand in the rain on East King Street to discuss cases. Jurors have also had to go outside while a motion before the court was argued.

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THE CHOWAN HERALD

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Concerns Re-zoning

High Court Accepts Suit

A rezoning action by Town Council which plaintiffs claim "has split the Town of Edenton wide open" is now before the N. C. Supreme Court. The state's highest court Monday agreed to review a decision by the Court of Appeals which approved the rezoning of one tract on Highway 32 while denying the town's action on a second parcel.

The sites in question are

Joint Meeting

The Albemarle Area Development Association and the Association of Counties and Towns will meet jointly tonight (Thursday) at Angler's Cove Restaurant near Hertford. The meeting begins at 7 P.M.

The announcement was made by R.L. Stevenson and Mayor Bill Cox, presidents of the respective organizations.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss highway needs in the region, such as improvement of the priority rating and emphasis on early construction.

Area legislators and highway officials are expected to attend.

generally known as the Ward Property at the apex of Highway 32 and U. S. 17 by-pass, which is now under construction.

After the Court of Appeals approved the action of Judge Elbert Peel, Jr., in Chowan County Superior Court, to rezone from R-20 to CH (highway commercial) the section known as the North Tract at the time of a Zoning Ordinance update, N.J. George and others petitioned the state's highest court to review the decision. At the same time the Court of Appeals reversed Judge Peel on his action to affirm rezoning the South Tract from R-20 to Shopping Center because of a technical error with regards to

legal requirement of notice prior to action.

Both the Town of Edenton and the plaintiffs will be allowed to file additional briefs and argue before the Supreme Court. A decision is not expected before August, some two years after the proposed owners, W.J.P. Earnhardt, Jr., and Bernard P. Burroughs petitioned for rezoning property of Mrs. Rosa F. Ward.

In their petition for discretionary review of the decision of the Court of Appeals, the plaintiffs claim the minutes of the council's minutes of August 12, 1975, "were either changed or misrepresented to reflect

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River Pollution Discussed

By Joe Vaughan
(First In A Series)

AHOSKIE—Fingers of blacktop and dirt roads intrude upon her privacy and touch her in places roadmaps fear. Still the Chowan River remains a lady.

From her Virginia birth where the headwaters of the Nottoway and Blackwater rivers unite to the

Albemarle Sound, the Chowan River remains the mistress of Hertford, Gates, Chowan and Bertie counties.

According to some area people, it is her peaceful, slowmoving nature with the characteristics of a lake that has almost caused her ruin.

Unlike more rapid waterways, pollutants remain in the Chowan River longer. This has resulted in massive algae blooms, threats to commercial fishermen and water sportsmen and poorwater quality in the past.

CF Industries Inc. complex at Tunis, a fertilizer producer fined on two occasions for release of algae stimulating nitrogen in the river, is held as a primary polluter by many locals.

Still others blame the Union-Camp paper mill on the Blackwater at Franklin, Va., for some past and present pollution. There is also sentiment that all the 21 waste discharge points in Virginia and the five in North Carolina share responsibility for pollution of the Chowan River.

Even Nature has been cited for some of the river's recent problems. According to the N. C. Division of Environmental Management, slight additions of either nitrogen or phosphorous can produce large "Green Tides" of algae in the river.

Some commercial fishermen say unusually cool springs have perhaps limited their annual haul of fish as much as water pollution.

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Subdivision Not Required To Hook-Up

The Chowan County commissioners rescinded a motion made February 11 to require landowners in the Welch Tract subdivision to hook up to the Chowan County Water System. At the same time commissioners gave final plat approval to the subdivision, allowing land sales to proceed there.

The legality of the February action was brought before the commission by Judd Little, county planner, who had quite a time of explaining why the motion was not correct.

According to Little, current subdivision laws do not allow the county to require hook-up to the water system. That end could only be accomplished by requiring all new construction in the county to hook-up where a water line is available.

The board was against such action.

The commissioners appropriated \$4,972 in anticipation of approving extension of Little's contract as county planner.

Capt. A. M. Howard, president of the Arrowhead Beach Property Owners Association, was present with a delegation seeking endorsement of a petition requesting that about 11 miles of road in the sub-division be turned over to the state.

In passing the motion to support the effort, chairman C. A. Phillips complimented the association on a fine job in preparing the application and supportive data. The application and other documents will be submitted to the DOT district engineers office for study.

The commissioners amended the budget \$400 in anticipation of a \$9,900 grant from the Albemarle

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CHAIRMAN—Dr. Clement Lucas has been named chairman of the steering committee for the Governor's Conference on Quality of Life of Our Senior Citizens, by Gov. James B. Hunt. The announcement was made Monday. The first meeting of the steering committee is being held in Raleigh today (Thursday). The conference is slated for April 29-30 in the new Raleigh Civic Center.

Need Funds For Program

By Flynn Surratt

Continuing the occupational education program in the Edenton-Chowan Schools will require an appropriation of \$89,920 from local sources for school year 1977-78 to match federal and state funds totaling \$153,106. Ken Stalls, occupational education director, told the board of education, Monday night that this represents an increase in local funding of about 11 per cent.

Stalls reported that during the past two months an evaluation of the program has been underway. He stated that while the scope of

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CHAIRMAN APPOINTED—Gary Anderson, right, has been named chairman of the Chowan County Chapter, American Red Cross succeeding W. T. Culpepper, III, left. Allan Asbell, center, chairs the Bloodmobile program.

Anderson Heads Red Cross

Gary Anderson, branch manager of Atlantic Credit Corp., has been named chairman of the Chowan County Chapter, American Red Cross, it was reported Tuesday.

He succeeds W. T. Culpepper, III, who stated that Anderson was selected on the basis of his contributions to the Red Cross in the

Sales Closed

The down the road sales effort by Federal Crop Insurance Fieldmen has been stopped for 1977. This became necessary because of limited resources.

FCIC's All-Risk Protection can still be obtained from the FCIC Office located in Ahoskie. "We do not know how much longer this will be possible," a spokesman stated.

Sales have been closed for all farmers in all counties in some states where known hazards exist.

Farmers interested in obtaining FCIC's All-Risk Investment Protection in 1977 should contact the nearest FCIC Office. The office for Chowan County is now located in the Boyette Building, 209 West Main Street, in Ahoskie. The telephone number is 332-4912.

past. Anderson served as Blood Chairman during 1976-77, a post now held by Allan Asbell.

Anderson's primary responsibilities will include supervision of service to military families, the disaster program, blood program, and various fund raising projects.

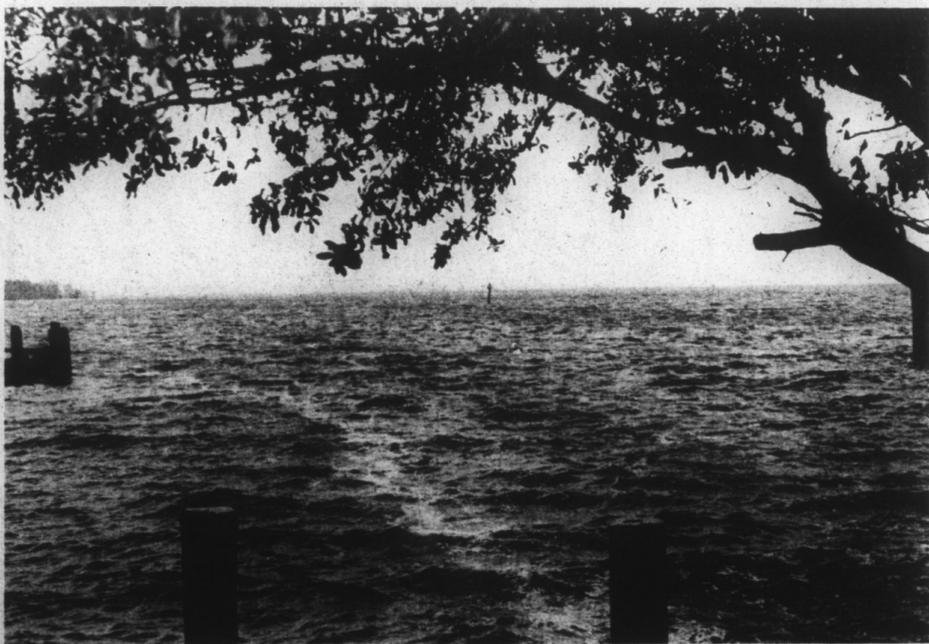
He will be coordinating the local chapter's first fund raising project in two years, tentatively scheduled for the first of April.

Anderson hopes to organize a series of first aid classes for businesses, industries, and interested individuals as well as boating safety classes.

The Bloodmobile will be at the Edenton Baptist Church Fellowship Hall Monday, he reported. The quota is 175 units, the highest yet established. During the last visit, 147 pints were collected on a quota of 130, and response to the program has reached an all time high, it was stated.

"I'm looking forward to working with all the people in Chowan County, and I welcome any questions, comments, or suggestions," Anderson remarked.

He can be contacted during the day at Atlantic Credit, 482-4461, and at night at 482-2083.



CHOWAN RIVER — SHE'S STILL A 'LADY' — The Chowan River widens its banks to approximately two and a half miles west near Edenton before it empties into the Albemarle Sound. Though people living near the river feel the constant threat of water pollution there, state officials say the body of water is in good condition and is one of the most closely monitored rivers in the state. (Photo by Joe Vaughan and courtesy The Ahoskie Herald.)

**Bloodmobile Monday At Edenton Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
12:00 Noon Til 6: P. M. Quota 175 Pints**