

Tar Heel Light Glows

Tour Time

The Biennial Pilgrimage of Colonial Edenton and Countryside begins tomorrow along the Public Parade. We want to be the first to issue a welcome to our visitors and to encourage homefolk to take advantage of this opportunity to visit and hear narratives about their heritage.

Edenton Woman's Club convinces the homeowners that it is a public service to open their dwellings to the public during the three-day period, ending at 5 P.M. Sunday, what the owners are doing is sharing their homes and gardens with the general public so the local civic club can provide much needed monies for Historic Edenton, Inc.

For those who come for the first time, we want you to know that Edenton and its countryside is preserved, rather than restored. That, along with the love we have in our hearts, makes us unique from any place you might go which might claim such heritage.

And, from the availability of food by various civic and religious organizations, we may have accomplished another first. From a herring breakfast Saturday morning and a dinner-theater Friday night there are bake sales, chicken salad luncheons, breakfasts, luncheons and dinner along with other activities, such as a Sidewalk Art Show, to attract your attention.

This is a prime example of the diversity which exists along the Public Parade. We tend to be recognized as the Cradle of the Colony and where it all began. But we remain alive and healthy and would hope that some of the enthusiasm which you might be exposed to over the next couple of days will cause you to remember Edenton and Chowan County in a special way.

The Pilgrimage of Colonial Edenton and Countryside might invite you every other year, but we want to take this opportunity to issue a blanket invitation for you to come as frequent as you desire. We'll be the same whenever you come!

W. G. Matthews

The Town of Edenton has lost a valuable employee. Chowan County, in general, and Arrowhead Beach, in particular, has lost a good citizen in the death Sunday of Bill Matthews.

At the prime age of 56, his ability to negotiate and compromise without being compromised could not deal with the deadly cancer which engulfed his body. He fought, like any fireman would, a valiant fight, only to succumb to a greater power than the electric circuit he last inspected.

William Garland Matthews meandered along the Public Parade by choice. He sought this area out for his retirement and until his last breath he spread a spirit of joy and understanding many of us seek but seldom accomplish.

He did many things, such as being a founder of the Driver, Va., Volunteer Fire Department, and public work as a supervisor of the U. S. Naval Transmitter Station. Being an inspector of anything is not the most popular position to hold in the bureaucracy, be it local, state or federal. But along the Public Parade he will be remembered as a diplomat of the finest sense of the word. He was a man of friendly persuasion rather

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WASHINGTON, D. C. — "Affirmative action" and "equal employment" appear to be the key phrases in the Carter Administration as far as the Cooperative Extension Service is concerned. Therefore, while the service may have a friend in the driver's seat at the U. S. Department of Agriculture here, rules of the game will be stronger than in the past.

Secretary of Agriculture Robert Bergland has indicated that he will place heavy emphasis on merit advancement as well as keeping a tight reign on "extension" which joins "outreach", "visibility", and "service delivery mechanism" as key words over the next four years.

"Extension" is merely another word for education and everyone wants to get into the act, according to the newly confirmed Under Secretary of Agriculture who addressed a group of some 180 laymen and agricultural extension personnel from 20 states last week.

Dr. Rupert Cutler pointed out that other agencies, outside USDA, are attempting to get into the "extension" business—the energy folks, Department of Housing & Urban Development, and Department of Health, Education and Welfare, to name a few.

"There is no need to establish a new agency or agencies to carry out the function of extension—education—for which the Cooperative Extension Service has proven to be so successful," Dr. Cutler said.

His remarks were near the conclusion of a three-day workshop-seminar of the North Central Lay session here. He talked candidly and openly about the role of the service as well as what will be required to gain favor with federal officials who control the purse strings.

This writer was among five laymen from across Tar Heelia to represent the state at this conference, which should prove not only to be an effective swap-shop, but a vehicle for strengthening the Agricultural Extension Service in North Carolina.

While every state seems to approach problems in a different manner, one thing is common—the delivery of services in the most efficient and effective manner, regardless of age, race or creed, remains foremost in the minds of those in the decision-making positions.

It was somewhat flattering to learn that among the 20 states represented, North Carolina is the only one which does comprehensive

long-range planning. This planning begins at the county level and ultimately incorporated into a state-wide work plan for the next five years, with dollar goals included.

North Carolina's recently released "4-Sight" plan drew particular attention from such states as Iowa where the State Advisory Committee decides what is best for a particular county and sends it down, rather than have it developed as the grassroots and sent up.

We are fortunate that in our state the plans have a local flavor from the outset, which results in the local government putting an average of 25 per cent into the program and feeling it is money well spent. (The remaining 75 per cent of the extension budget comes from state and federal funds).

Federal funds are not flowing as freely as they once did, the result being that nearly 500 positions were cut throughout the country this fiscal year with a like number to be dropped in fiscal 1978-79. Dr. Cutler, while expressing concern, said there was little hope of getting them restored.

North Carolina has 625 agents in the field and 230 specialists. Dr. Chester Black, assistant state director, said at this time his office is reviewing some 45 positions being developed which required the knowledge of skilled professionals to guide the citizenry.

By contrast one state, Missouri, has some \$1,200 working in the Cooperative Extension Program, with only 400 in the field and 800 on the university campus. It illustrates that in our state the people in the "ivory tower" have their heads screwed on right.

At the conference it was pointed out that in one North Central state, state and federal money was turned back because of the lack of local match. This, therefore proves that the program is not filtering down to the grassroots in sufficient quantity as to cause citizens to bow up to the problem, thereby, creating sufficient conversation among local people to see that programs which are beneficial to local citizens are not only developed but carried out.

With planning such as went into "4-Sight" you don't have to sell extension, it will sell itself. Or at least that is what is happening in Chowan County and other counties in North Carolina.

L. F. Amburn, Jr.

Demolition Bid Awarded By County

The most recent phase of development of the long-sought for Chowan County Courthouse-Jail Project was the opening of bids at 2:30 P.M. Wednesday for demolition and site clearance.

J. A. Johnson Construction Company of Dunn submitted the low bid of \$23,245.87. It was estimated that it would take 60 days to complete the work.

The next lowest was \$26,475 submitted by S.B. COX, Inc., of Richmond, Va. Waff Bros., Inc., of Edenton was the third firm to bid on the project, their bid being \$73,909.

J. Everette Fauber of Lynchburg, Va., architect, was here for the bid opening attended by Chowan County commissioners. He said the bids must be submitted to Economic Development Administration for approval before a contract can be signed.

Town Notified

The Town of Edenton has been notified by the Department of Housing & Urban Development to submit a final application for a \$445,000 Community Development grant.

This was reported at the council meeting Tuesday night by W.B. Gardner, town administrator. Because of the necessary work to be done in preparing the final application, council set a special meeting for next Tuesday night to discuss procedures with Williams

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TOUR BEGINS — Mrs. Lonnie Sick, left, co-chairman of the Guide Book Committee, and Mrs. Byron Kehayes, Edenton Woman's Club president, are shown above flanked by the Cupola House, one of the more popular tour sites in the Biennial Pilgrimage of Colonial Edenton and Countryside which opens Friday and will continue through Sunday.

Biennial Tour Starts Friday

The Biennial Pilgrimage of Colonial Edenton and Countryside opens tomorrow with a record turn-out expected for the three day event. Sponsored by the Edenton Woman's Club, the tour this year will feature a number of homes not previously included and church

and civic clubs are geared up with special activities centering around the pilgrimage.

Mrs. Byron Kehayes, club president, noted that this year's tour is the first with both the Downtown Beautification Project

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Bear Swamp Legislation Before Assembly

A housekeeping bit of legislation to clean up deficiencies in the Bear Swamp Draining District was put into the hopper of the General Assembly at the 11th hour Tuesday after Chowan County commissioners discussed, but failed to reconsider, action taken April 4 regarding endorsement of the local bill.

Tuesday was the last day for local legislation to be introduced in the 1977 General Assembly and Sen. Melvin Daniels of Elizabeth City had told officials of the drainage district that he would like to have the endorsement of the boards of commissioners in Chowan and Perquimans counties.

The Chowan commissioners approved a resolution at their meeting April 4, at which two members were absent. Among them, because of a death in the family, was N.J. George, whose wife owns property involved in the district.

Commissioner George said he favored the project but objected because ample notification had

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HEAD-ON COLLISION — Three persons were injured, one critically, in a head-on collision between the 1976 Fiat shown above and a truck last Thursday afternoon. Miss Nancy Morgan Whichard, 21, Horniblow Point on Albemarle Sound, was driver of this vehicle. She is in critical condition in Pitt Memorial Hospital in Greenville, where she was taken following emergency treatment at Chowan Hospital.

Woman Critically Injured

Miss Nancy Morgan Whichard of Horniblow Point on Albemarle Sound is in critical condition at Pitt Memorial Hospital in Greenville following a car-truck collision near the American Legion Building here last Thursday afternoon.

Miss Whichard was nearing her

destination from Bristol, Va.-Tenn., where she is in college, when the 1976 Fiat she was driving north on U. S. 17 collided head-on with a truck driven by Fredrick Scott Griffin, 19, Route 2, Edenton.

Both vehicles were demolished in the 5:45 P. M. mishap.

Miss Whichard was rushed to Chowan Hospital after being removed from the wreckage by Edenton-Chowan Rescue Squad. Because of the condition of the vehicle, it took the professionals some 30 minutes to get the driver from her car.

Griffin and his father, Fred, 50, were also carried to the hospital. The younger Griffin was treated and released but his father was hospitalized with two broken wrists.

Five physicians and support personnel gave the 21-year-old student emergency treatment at the local hospital for nearly three hours, using seven pints of rare blood from Elizabeth City and Norfolk, Va. She was then transferred to Greenville where her condition still remains guarded.

State Trooper M. J. McArthur, investigating officer, said Jack White had stopped his vehicle to make a left turn into the driveway of William T. Elliott. White said he saw the Whichard car approaching and eased off to the right.

The trooper said Miss Whichard then crossed the center line and the car and truck collided. He added that White is fortunate that he got out of the way in time to avoid the accident.

The investigation was incomplete at presstime.

Dry Weather Here Early

Chowan County farmers have taken to the fields in droves, but already are experiencing some dry weather conditions which could hamper germination of corn and vegetables.

Pete Thompson, county extension chairman, told The Chowan Herald this week that it is "sorta dry" but farmers are busy planting their crops. In another 10 days they will be planting peanuts and cotton.

Thompson reports some problems being experienced with certain variety of seeds. Peanut and soybean seed may be in short supply. He says the freeze last fall got some seed peanuts and hurt some soybean germination.

The bright spot is twofold, according to Thompson. First, small grain doesn't look bad considering the winter weather. Secondly, warm weather is in favor of the farmer.

Yet, he says, "we do need a rain."

Livestock Show

The 1977 Chowan County Junior Livestock Show and Sale will be held Tuesday at the American Legion Fair grounds. The show will be held at 3:30 P. M. and the sale that night at 7:30 o'clock.

Last year the steers were sold individually as in past years. Hogs were sold two pens of three hogs separately. Then each hog exhibitor was allowed to sell one hog separately.

Again this year the sale will be essentially the same as last year. Last year there were 34 entries on the sale order. But due to fine support of local people and some generous help from businesses outside of Chowan County, it was an exciting sale! "Probably the

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VISIT JAPANESE EMBASSY—Naomi Obara, a Japanese foreign exchange student at John A. Holmes High School, was treated to a tour of the Tea House at the Japanese Embassy in Washington, D. C., last Friday afternoon while on a tour with the



W. B. Gardner family, with whom she is residing. The student is pictured here with John Wentworth, an information advisor for the Embassy. A group from Edenton is shown in the other picture in front of the Tea House as Masaharu Kono, third secretary, right with back to camera, explains the custom of his homeland.