

Ward Property Rezoned Second Time

Thanks To Someone

It is Wednesday morning and we are trying to fight the flu bug, and a deadline. The delivery boy from Pate's Florist sends in a red carnation, dressed with a piece of holly.

The box is plainly marked, "no card".

If it was a joke we haven't figured out the punch line. Nevertheless, it tickled our fancy at a time when anything less wouldn't have been funny, let alone appreciated!

Even editors like to be reassured sometimes that someone out there cares. So, whoever you are, thank you.

Going On Tape?

Lester T. Copeland of the Chowan County Board of Commissioners has taken us to task regarding a quote from last week's board meeting. His letter, with some correction, appears elsewhere in today's newspaper.

Mr. Copeland contends that we did not accurately quote him with regards to discussion of the livestock schedule adopted for tax purposes. If we were in error it was certainly not intentional and therefore, the reporter in us is being corrected by the editor in us by printing his letter.

Nevertheless, he deals only in schisms. The substance of what we said he said and what he said he said aren't that far apart. In reporting you can't go into the details that the speaker may want. Space just won't permit.

Mr. Copeland did go into a song and dance about the mandate from the General Assembly, but that is something he must take up with the legislators and not this newspaper.

Maybe the time has come, as the Edenton Town Council decided, for the commissioners to electronically record their proceedings. While the tape may go on for hours, the substance of what transpired could be reduced to minutes.

If it is necessary, we will provide the tape.

Good Choice

The N.C. Agricultural Extension Service has announced the promotion of Mrs. Josephine Patterson of Greensboro to district extension chairman in 15 northeastern counties. Both the appointee and those who made the appointment deserve congratulations.

As a co-worker with J.C. Jones, who has taken a position as director of the Office of Marine Affairs, Mrs. Patterson has proven time and again that she possess unique qualities of leadership. She is also an able administrator.

But best of all, while she resides on the edge of the Piedmont, she is a friend of Northeastern North Carolina. This has been proven many times during the period which she has been assigned to this region.

In her appointment, Dr. George Hyatt, Jr., director of the Agricultural Extension Service, reiterates his own special interest in those who meander along the Public Parade and throughout the region.

While it is difficult to follow Mr. Jones in any assignment, we know of no one more able, nor who better fits the bill than Mrs. Patterson.

Personal Again

If you have grown tired of reading about our family and our love for the community, then you will want to skip this item. But as a proud husband and father with particular resources, we would be remiss if we didn't share with you these comments.

Out at Holmes High School last Thursday night we sat in awe as the Edenton Little Theater scored a ringing success with the production of "The Enchanted Christmas Tree" and "The Cowboy's Christmas."

One never ceases to be amazed at the talent which meanders along the Public Parade. It is not

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A 40-month struggle to get 10 acres of land on the Edenton side of U.S. 17 by-pass zoned for commercial use ended in a 5-1 affirmative decision Tuesday night by Town Council.

Minutes later an attempt by a property owner on the southwest corner to obtain special use approval within an approved zone

was denied as councilmen seized on the proposal as an attempt to get around designation as a shopping center.

It was the second time for W.J.P. Earnhardt, Jr., and Bernard P. Burroughs to get a portion of the Ward property designated as Highway Commercial. The issue is still before

the N.C. Supreme Court on what Attorney Earnhardt described as a "procedural" issue.

The state's highest court has had the matter under consideration since May and Earnhardt called on the council "to do in a proper way what has been alleged was improperly done in August, 1975." At that time the

property was rezoned from R-20, residential-farming, to Highway Commercial via adoption of a new zoning map.

N. J. George and others alleged it was improperly done but the N.C. Court of Appeals' decision was in favor of the council. The Supreme Court was petitioned to hear the matter and agreed to do

so. "Justice delayed is justice denied," Earnhardt stated at Tuesday night's meeting.

George argued the council's consideration of the latest petition was not proper since the state's highest court had not sent down a decision.

Councilman Gil Burroughs, who has opposed any and every effort to get the Ward tracts rezoned, said he was opposed to the list of "special uses" which rest in the hands of the Planning & Zoning Board of Adjustment. "I am not ready to relinquish this authority to anyone," he declared. He cast the only negative vote.

Mrs. Grace Griffin, a property owner in the area, also opposed consideration of the petition. She said as Highway Commercial it can still "mess up" the entrance to the town on Highway 32.

After Burroughs' comments about the lack of dimensional requirements, it was indicated that this would be handled at a future meeting.

At one point, Councilman Harry Spruill, Jr., who made the motion to rezone, told his colleague: "You are bringing out the worse and not showing much trust in the zoning board."

In August, 1977, council voted unanimously to rezone property Thomas Francis owned at the southwest apex of the interchange from R-20 to Highway Commercial, with the stipulation that council be advised as to what was anticipated in the development.

Merrill Evans, Jr., representing Francis, presented maps showing such things as a department store, grocery store, restaurant and bank. The councilmen, lead by Harrell, said this was not in keeping the motion to rezone.

While all agreed it might be considered "compatible" with specified uses, it was not in agreement with the "intent" of the motion.

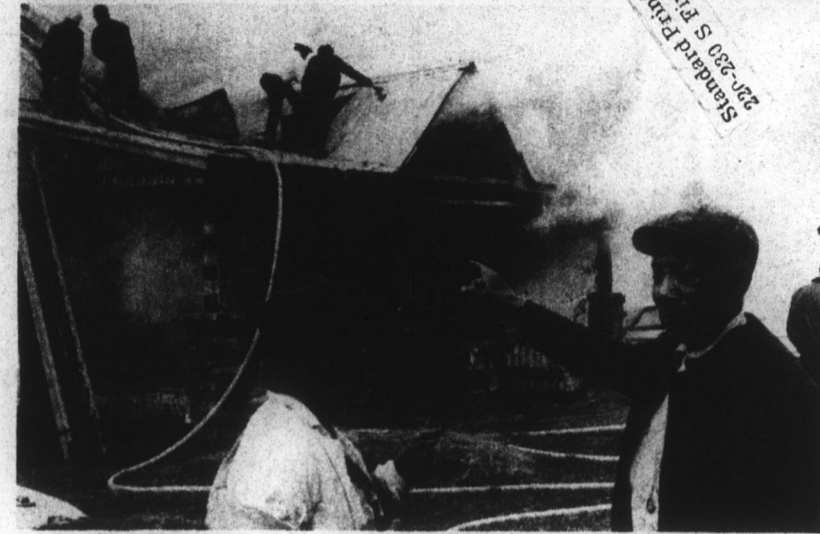
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WATCH HOME BURN—James N. Granby and his wife were photographed Friday afternoon as firemen from Edenton Fire Department labored to save their home on Route 2, Edenton. The "glass house" was heavily damaged and Granby's work of more than five years went up in smoke.



PLENTY OF WATER—Firemen had plenty of water available to fight the Friday afternoon blaze which heavily damage the James N. Granby residence in rural Chowan County. A hydrant on the county-wide water system was adjacent to the dwelling. Junius Britton is the fireman operating the pumper.

Friday Fire Guts House Made Of Bottles

Fire of undetermined origin virtually destroyed the home of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Granby, Route 2, Edenton, last Friday afternoon. The house, made of bottles through the talent of the owner, was located on a rural paved road off Highway 37.

Fire Chief Luther C. Parks estimated damage to the property at \$5,000. He noted that while a fire hydrant was located on the corner of the lot the type of construction kept the blaze in the attic and hampered fire fighting efforts.

Firemen had to cut through the roof to get to the fire which created more smoke than flames.

While water was no problem, as in most rural fires, oxygen was. At least three trips back to Edenton, some six miles away, had to be made to keep fire fighters supplied.

Granby said at the scene he had worked for more than five years on the house, but had not completed it because of recent poor health.

He told authorities he and his wife were sitting in a room downstairs when they heard a noise. Upon investigating they found the second floor to be on fire. Because of apparent panic they did not call the fire department immediately and later the blaze got so hot they had to dash to a neighbor's house to use the telephone.

Firemen answered a call at 11:05 A.M. Sunday at the home of Preston King, 205 West Carteret Street. An oil heater had flooded.

Then at 4:40 A.M. Monday they were called to Coach House Inn

where the night clerk reported smoke. It was discovered that a release valve on a hot water heater was allowing steam to escape and filled the room. There was no fire.

AADA Sets Annual Event

Speaker Carl J. Stewart, Jr., of the State House of Representatives, has accepted an invitation to be keynote speaker at the annual meeting of the 10-county Albemarle Area Development Association. The meeting will be held at 6:30 P.M. on December 21 at the Edenton Jaycee Community Building on Base Road.



Carl J. Stewart, Jr.

Tickets to the event are limited and can be purchased through the county extension office in the counties of the Albemarle.

R. L. Stevenson of Hertford is president of AADA and made the announcement of Stewart's acceptance which will be the first major appearance of the Gaston County legislator in Northeastern North Carolina.

The program, coordinated by R.M. (Pete) Thompson, county extension chairman, and Thomas P. Griffin, county AADA chairman, will include an introduction of the speaker by Rep. Vernon James of Weeksville.

Mrs. Vivian Jones of Camden will present community development awards and Ed Brown of Hertford will give industrial recognition.

Chairman N.J. George of Chowan County commissioners will give the welcome and Phil Quidley of Manteo will report for the nominating committee.

Speaker Stewart is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Duke University where he received his undergraduate and law degree. He has been a leader in legal, business, civic and community affairs in his native county as well as throughout the state.

He was first elected to the General Assembly in 1966 and was elected Speaker of the House of Representatives in 1977 after making a major contribution to the state through committee and floor work.

Feige Arrested

Eric W. (Butch) Feige, 19, Route 1, Edenton, waived first appearance proceedings Tuesday morning in Chowan County District Court.

Feige, who is in the U.S. Army stationed at Ft. Benning, Ga., is charged with taking indecent liberties with a minor under 14, and attempting to commit lewd and lascivious act upon a female child under 16.

Sheriff Troy Toppin said the alleged offenses occurred in May and involved an 11 year old girl.

Feige waived extradition and was picked up at the Georgia base by Deputies Glenn Perry and Melvin Evans. He is lodged in Tri-County Jail in lieu of \$20,000 bond.

Social Security Benefits Paid

Social Security benefits were being paid to 2,332 residents of Chowan County at a rate of \$363,453 a month at the start of 1977.

Monthly Social Security benefits are payable to workers and their dependents when the worker retires, becomes severely disabled, or dies. Some 1,149 retired workers and 191 disabled workers received monthly Social Security benefits at the beginning of 1977. In addition, 275 wives or husbands of the worker, 396 children, and 321 widows, widowers or parents received monthly Social Security benefits.

Today, Social Security is the nation's basic method of providing a continuing income when family earnings are reduced or stopped because of retirement, disability, or death.

Nine out of ten workers in the area are earning protection under Social Security. About 1 out of every 6 persons in the Albemarle area receives monthly Social Security checks.

About 22-million people 65 and over, nearly all of the nation's aged population, have health insurance under Medicare. Another 2.1 million disabled people under 65 also have Medicare. Nearly every family, then, has a stake in Social Security.

The Elizabeth City Social Security Office serves the people of Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Pasquotank, and Perquimans counties and Ocracoke Island.



PLEASED SECRETARY—Mrs. Sara Hodgkins, right, and Mrs. Frances Inglis are shown on the steps inside the hallway at Hayes. Mrs. Inglis is chairman of the Edenton Historical Commission and was among those who showed the secretary of Cultural Resources several historic sites in Edenton last week.

Mrs. Patterson Takes Post

Mrs. Josephine Patterson, a 25-year veteran with the N.C. Agricultural Extension Service, has been placed in charge of all extension work in 15 northeastern counties.

Mrs. Patterson's promotion to northeastern district extension chairman was announced by Dr. George Hyatt, Jr., director of the Agricultural Extension Service.

She succeeds J.C. Jones, who has taken a position as director of the Office of Marine Affairs in the N.C. Department of Administration.

A native of Rowan County, Mrs. Patterson has a bachelor's degree in home economics from A. & T. State University and a master's degree in adult education from N.C. State University. She has four years of experience as a county extension agent and 21 years of experience as a district agent.

Hyatt called Mrs. Patterson "a proven, able administrator." She will be responsible in her new position for extension educational programs in agriculture, home economics, 4-H and community resource development. The Agricultural Extension Service is a cooperative educational agency involving county governments, the state's two land-grant universities and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Mrs. Patterson and her husband, Matthew Patterson, live on Youngs Mill Road, Greensboro.



Mrs. Josephine Patterson



TOURS HAYES—Mrs. Sara Hodgkins, secretary of the N.C. Department of Cultural Resources, is shown here at Hayes Plantation with A.B. Harless, Jr., left, chairman of Historic Edenton, Inc., and W.B. Gardner, town administrator. Mrs. Hodgkins spent two hours here December 7 visiting historic sites.