

## Public Parade

### Guest Columnist

It is not often that we turn this entire column for a given edition over to a guest columnist. However, the writer of the following letter is so sincere; his subject so timely; his message so important we feel the urge to give this special space along the Public Parade.

Paul Britton's letter comes from the heart, written in a setting he never dreamed he would find himself, and about a subject he had no intention of becoming familiar. Here it is:

Friends, Family and People of Edenton. I would like to inform the young people of our fair town about the drug problem and how close it ties in with prison.

If not all, but most of you young people know about drugs, in one way or the other. I know you may or may not take a lot of talk (lip) from your parents and friends (true friends) about the do's and don'ts, but let me tell you. You better take the don'ts.

Drugs can ruin a person physically as well as mentally. I know, I was out on the streets at one time not very long ago. I would say over 95 per cent of the inmates in this prison camp, are in here one way or the other because of drugs. Oh I know its cool to smoke that joint or take that hit of speed, but prison is one hell of a way from being cool.

Most of you, when you do drugs or drink are in a crowd. Not really one of you want to do it, but along with the help of others (the push of the group) you end up stoned or drunk and out of it. Don't get me wrong now, I'm not completely against drugs. They have their place when used correctly. Pot one day may be legal and under certain ages but until then leave it alone!

I am now in prison because of a serious crime. Maybe if I hadn't ever been drinking or on drugs, or even never ever used them, I might not be here now. I'm not putting the blame on drugs, but if you were to get into trouble, it wouldn't hold up very strong in court for you.

Most or all of you never looked through bars day in and day out. At night I never see the lights go off. Have you ever felt hand cuffs or leg cuffs? No, I guess not. But if you get into trouble and get convicted you will.

Prison and drugs are one hell of a way to spend part of one's life; your life!

Parents are not always right, but they have been where we are now. Maybe a little later, but still they've been there. Listen to them, tell them your problems, and talk it out. That's the only way, unless you decide to come along and join me.

Parents listen to your kids! Try to understand and most of all, be his or her friend as well as a mother and father. If you do decide to take the other route and

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## Grant Application Debated

WINDSOR — The Northeastern Rural Health Association's application for a \$200,000 federal continuation grant was debated at a public hearing here Tuesday and will come up for further review by Eastern Carolina Health Systems Agency.

Speakers from Tyrrell,

### Win Tournament

Golfers from Edenton went over to Pasquotank County to play in a tournament to benefit the American Cancer Society last week. By the time the pork was ready for supper Saturday, two local teams had won the men's titles and will represent the area in the N. C. Walter Hagen Golf Tournament in Pinehurst.

The Creywood Oil Company team of Bob Kelly, pro at Chowan Golf & Country Club, Clark Harris, Randy Crabtree and Tom Bass finished with a 63 to win the mens' scratch title.

Scott Privott, Larry Hughes, Jerry Priy and James Ellis carded a 53 to win the mens' handicap crown. The team was sponsored by Sepdic Vending Service.

Winning team members got gold engraved awards.

Getting certificates of par-

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Perquimans and Bertie counties heavily endorsed the application. The major opposition was voiced by existing health care providers and spokesman for a new Tyrrell County group.

The association was characterized by one speaker, Rev. Andrew Cherry, as the best vehicle for meeting the "human needs" of the service area. "Give these people an opportunity to serve the human needs," he said. Earlier he observed it was not a question of need but who is going to control the mechanism. He

### Meeting Slated

The Steering Committee for Tri-County Career Education Center Feasibility Study will meet Monday at 8 P.M. in the auditorium of the Perquimans County Office Building, according to Clifford Winslow, chairman.

Kenneth L. Stalls of Edenton, director, is expected to report on funding proposals for Phase II of the study. These proposals are to Coastal Plains Regional Commission, the State Department of Public Instruction and private agencies.

noted that previously professionals have come forth with plans which were never developed.

Andrew Martin, NRHDA executive director, noted that none of those who oppose the application had addressed the question of access. He said the association wanted to provide access to people who need to be served.

Martin also said changes are being brought about because "we challenge the establishment of physicians, pharmacy and administration." Also, he said the people want the service, need the service and he promised to deliver the service.

In an opening statement, Olin Syles of Edenton, NRHDA treasurer, explained that continuation of the project would put dental services in eastern Bertie County and medical services in Bertie and Perquimans counties. He also cited programs started in Tyrrell County such as dental, health education and x-ray.

Lenny Perry of Colerain, a member of the Roanoke-Chowan Hospital board, argued that the

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## Interscholastic Program Is Approved

Permission has been sought from and granted by the State Department of Public Instruction to Edenton-Chowan Schools allowing interested students from Chowan High School to participate in the athletic program at John A. Holmes High School during the

### Tickets On Sale

Tickets are now on sale in Edenton, Hertford and Elizabeth City for the second in a series of three meetings by the Hiway 17 Association to generate support for four laning of the route from Virginia to South Carolina.

The meeting will be held at 6:30 P.M. on August 14 at the Edenton Jaycee Community Building on Base Road. Tickets are \$5 for the banquet meeting and can be secured from Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce, Peoples Bank & Trust Company or Bank of North Carolina, N.A.

Robert Moore, executive vice president of the chamber, said Mayor Bill Cox of Hertford is in charge of the banquet and Tom Campbell of Elizabeth City in making arrangements for the speaker.

State Sen. Melvin R. Daniels, Jr., of Pasquotank County, was the keynote speaker on July 17 for the first in the series. More than 125 people attended the banquet in New Bern.

## Program Offers Job Opportunities

A pilot program administered by the Coastal Development Center, Inc., in cooperation with the College of the Albemarle Continuing Education Division, is now in the process of preparing 14 young men for skilled employment



ELECTIONS SUPERVISOR — Mrs. Corrine Thorud, left, is shown with Mrs. Harriet B. Sawyer who becomes supervisor of elections for the Chowan County Board of Elections on August 1. Mrs. Thorud resigned recently after holding the position for 11 years. (Staff Photo by Luke Amburn.)

## Elections Supervisor Named

Mrs. Harriet Barrow Sawyer is now training to become supervisor of elections for the Chowan County Board of Elections. She has been appointed to the post, effective August 1.

Mrs. Sawyer will be only the

second person to hold this position with the county. Mrs. Corrine Thorud, who recently resigned, has been supervisor of elections since the post was created in 1968.

Mrs. Thorud said this week she plans to continue her community and church work in retirement. Also, the extra time will allow her to spend more time with her grandchildren.

The Chowan County Board of Elections, chaired by E. N. (Pete) Manning, nominated Mrs. Sawyer for the post. The nomination was endorsed by Mrs. Thorud.

In making the appointment, Alex K. Brock, director of elections with the State Board of Elections, characterized Mrs. Sawyer's appointment as "a logical one."

Mrs. Sawyer's husband, Ronnie, is administrator for Albemarle Family Health Services here.

## Real Estate Business Opens

This week Carol Becker announces the opening of her own real estate business in Edenton—Carol Becker Real Estate.

For the past three years she has been a broker associated with the Rich Company of Elizabeth City. In that capacity, she worked with a large number of interested buyers and sellers in the Edenton area. "I now want to give Edenton my undivided attention with my own company," she said.

She can be reached at 482-4873. Mrs. Becker is a member of the Elizabeth City Board of Realtors, N. C. Association of Realtors and the National Association of Realtors.



TOURNAMENT WINNERS — Two local golf teams took first place in the Northeastern Tournament for the American Cancer Society in Pasquotank County, last Saturday. From the left, above, are Larry Hughes, Scott Privott, and James Ellis, first place winners in the Handicapped Division. Also Tom Bass, Randy Crabtree, Clark Harris and Bob Kelly, first place winners in the Scratch Division.

## 4-H Honor Club Taps Jordan

One of the highest honors in 4-H work was bestowed Monday night on a Chowan County youth.

Bob Jordan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Jordan, was "tapped" into the State 4-H Honor Club in a colorful candlelight ceremony marking one of the highlights of N. C. 4-H Congress in Raleigh.

Membership in the some 1,000 member organization is a reward for outstanding service to 4-H work. The 4-H'ers are judged on their leadership abilities, moral standards, 4-H activities and project achievement. Selection is made after careful study by the Honor Club members. The tapping is a distinction that is reserved for less than one-half of 1 per cent of

the state's 4-H members.

Jordan has been a 4-H member for 10 years. During this time he has completed projects in livestock, wildlife, health and field crops. He was state winner in the wildlife project and earned the right to attend National 4-H Congress in Chicago.

Bob was several times a local officer and was president of the Chowan County Council. He was active in demonstrations and was runner-up in the American Business System (team and individual) state contest. These achievements gave him the opportunity of attending American Institute of Cooperation at College Station, Tex. and Blacksburg, Va.



FACILITY ON BASE ROAD — Class members are pictured above with instructor Ricky Winslow, right, at their facility on Base Road adjacent to the Airport Commission Building. The converted parachute loft was turned into a training center through the efforts of the Coastal Development Center, Inc.



WORKING TOGETHER — Team spirit plays an important role in the Coastal Development Center's skills training program. Two students are shown above working on one of several projects that will increase their technical skill while providing a useful and valuable piece of equipment.

as welders.

Funded by \$73,000 grant from the Department of Commerce, this welding program is aimed at economically disadvantaged students in Chowan and Perquimans counties. According to Robert E. White, CDC executive director, the current session will run through September 30 and is expected to be extended to April 1, 1980, by an additional \$76,000 grant.

"We envision an extension of the grant and will hopefully be able to incorporate farm machinery maintenance, machine shop repair, diesel maintenance and other skills so direly needed by the private sector," he stated.

As well, funds through the Department of Commerce will enable a carpentry class to be added beginning July 31.

The program has received the endorsement of various local and state agencies from the county commissioners and local school system to the Employment Security Commission and the First Judicial District, Superior Court Division.

Strong emphasis has been placed on helping probationers

and parolees to become productive, reliable and independent citizens.

Ricky Winslow, instructor and counselor, and Emmet Jones, instructor, began classes on April 1. The program includes not only basic to advanced acetylene and electric arc welding, but incorporates blueprint reading and mathematics as well. Winslow reported that for students also enrolled in the Edenton-Chowan Alternative School, it will mean extra credits toward high school graduation.

The students, he said, were recruited on the basis of their meeting the income criteria and having not been employed for the past 15 of 20 weeks. Their ages range from 16 to 25.

Except for the building, located adjacent to the Airport Commission Building on Base Road, the instructional facility was put together by the students in the program. Technical skills already learned are being put to use building tools and lighting for the expanding program.

In addition, one local church is now benefiting from the training.

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