

Fiberform Plant To Re-Open Under New Management

Another Unusual Plea

Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Congressional District is known for many things along the Public Parade. In addition to being the husband of Dot Long, and his excellent fish stew, he is hailed for constituent service throughout his vast district.

Rep. Jones brought further honor to the district when the U.S. House of Representatives formally elected him as chairman of the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee. He is one of 14 representatives to chair a permanent House Committee.

There is one thing Rep. Jones has never been short on, and that is opponents. They have come in all sizes and he has managed to beat them by wider and wider margins.

An employee of his most recent opponent wrote him after the election with an unusual plea. She wanted him to help her get paid for some of the work she did for his opponent.

Now comes another unusual plea. This time it is a letter from President Reagan asking him to contribute money to help defeat Democratic congressmen. The computer processed letter went to the congressman's Farmville home, apparently by mistake.

Like in the earlier case, the amiable representative hat to "respectively decline" the request.

Splitting Partners

Cotton may never again become king along the Public Parade but it has created one of the best examples known of a local, state and federal partnership. There is an earlier example which must not be minimized -- the feeder pig cooperative.

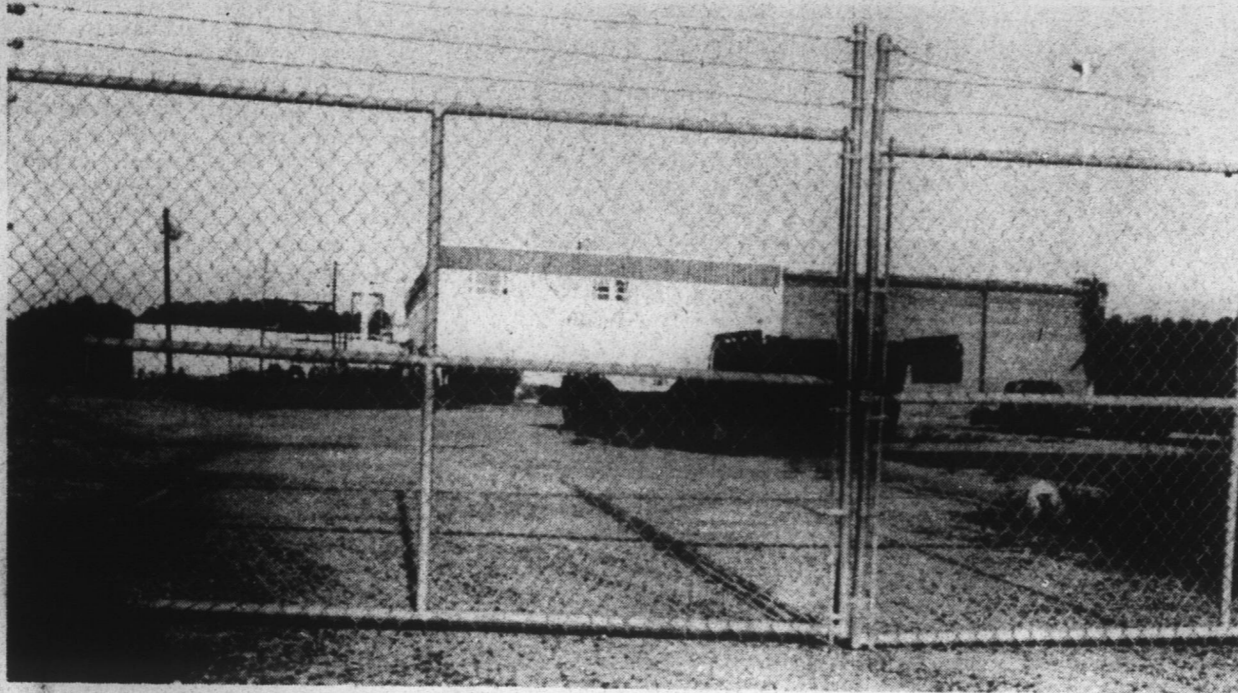
Farmers along the Public Parade and throughout Northeastern North Carolina were in dire need of a good rotation crop when corn prices hit the bottom. They found it in cotton. Cotton was attractive because this area was selected by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, through encouragement of Chowan's Agricultural Extension Service, as the base of a boll weevil eradication program.

The program was successful in both eradication as well as financial. Chemical costs were cut substantially and cotton quality increased. The program was so successful and the yield and quality so attractive, that farmers joined together to establish the Albemarle Cotton Growers Cooperative Association.

Farmers were not given a free ride. They contributed, via stock purchase, and Bank of North Carolina, N.A., picked up a required portion of a Farmers Home Administration guaranteed loan. The package was developed in cooperation with the N. C. Rural Fund for Development.

A gin was bought and erected on a site in the central area of the county. Farmers purchased pickers and wagons and no longer had to haul their cotton 50 miles to a gin. The cotton fever quickly spread to neighboring Gates and Perquimans counties. Talk of a second gin -- in Gates County -- is

Continued on page 4



GATE TO BE UNLOCKED — The gate into the Fiberform plant on Albemarle Sound near Edenton Municipal Airport will soon be reopened. Bayliner Marine Corporation of Arlington, Wash., has reached agreement with U. S. Industries to purchase Fiberform. The local plant will be operated as an extension of Bayliner and production is expected to begin before the end of the year.

THE CHOWAN HERALD

Vol. XLVI - No. 38 Edenton, North Carolina, Thursday, September 10, 1981 Single Copies 20 Cents

Arrowhead Resident Killed In Crash

A crop-dusting plane piloted by LeRoy Harry Osborne, Sr., crashed Tuesday afternoon six miles south of Hertford. The pilot died in the wreckage.

Osborne, Route 1, Arrowhead Beach, was spraying a 70-acre field of soybeans for Thomas Ed Chappell in Perquimans County when he clipped a utility pole on U.S. 17, cutting a wing off of the plane and crashing into a nearby field.

Insecticide and debris were scattered as the plane cartwheeled over the home of Fay Ann Noyes. One of the Cessna's wings landed behind her house, while other wreckage littered her front yard.

Still upset by her experience, she commented, "I got to the front door as it was raining poison and wreckage."

The poison referred to was Sevin, the insecticide which the plane had been spraying. Drops of Sevin spotted her front windows, as well as dampening her hair and glasses.

The remainder of the plane, which had crashed into a field approximately 150 feet away, started to burn. The firemen had to spray steadily for 20 minutes before Osborne's body could be removed from the wreckage.

Sheriff Julian Broughton of Perquimans County said he thought Osborne clipped a Virginia Electric and Power Company pole as he made a low pass over the fields on the east side of U.S. 17. Lines which belonged to the Albemarle Electric Membership Corp. were also severed.

LeRoy Harry Osborne, Sr., 39, was a native of Ridgefield, Conn.

A Marine Corps veteran of Vietnam, he was employed by Farmer's Air Service in Chowan County.

He was the husband of Kathleen

Taylor Osborne. Besides his wife, he is survived by a daughter, Elizabeth Ann Osborne; two sons, Joseph John

Continued on page 4



PLANE CRASH CLAIMS VICTIM — There wasn't much left of a single engine plane being used for crop dusting after it crashed near the Chowan-Perquimans county line Tuesday afternoon. The crash claimed the life of the pilot, LeRoy Harry Osborne, Sr., of Arrowhead Beach. (Staff Photo by Jeff Winslow).

Noble Discusses New Duties

By Jeff Winslow

Edenton's new town administrator, Samuel W. Noble, Jr., will begin work on October 1.

Noble, the town manager at Granite Falls since May, 1978, will replace Bill Gardner, who held the position for over 20 years.

According to Noble, the purpose of having a town administrator is "so the department heads will have someone to go to when they need assistance. "If they didn't have problems, they wouldn't need an administrator."

Noble plans to carry out established city policies and help department heads solve their day-to-day problems, while attempting to stay clear of town politics.

"I want to stay out of politics, that's the council's role," he said, adding, "it's important to keep the council informed, but I'll handle the problems."

His view of the town administrator is to implement policy, not to play political in-keeper.

Noble believes he will have few problems in his new job. "It was understood that council would set policy and it was my job to implement it and handle the personnel." This was clarified with

Continued on page 4

Edenton Receives Land Use Grant

Edenton was among 50 counties and towns in the coastal area to share in grant awards totaling \$226,759, accorded to Sec. Joseph W. Grimsley of the State Department of Natural Resources and Community Development. The grants funds projects developed by the local governments for planning and management of their coastal resources.

The Town of Edenton receives \$2,025 toward land-use planning.

"With these grants coastal communities can address the issues which they have decided are most important to them. We are helping local leaders meet the challenges of growth and development while protecting the delicate coastal environment," Grimsley said. "This grant program is an important component of our effective coastal management effort. This year's projects are especially important as federal budget changes may reduce this type of assistance to local governments in coming years," he added.

Bayliner Marine Corporation of Arlington, Wash., has confirmed an agreement with U. S. Industries to purchase all assets of Fiberform. This includes the property, plant and equipment at the Fiberform plant on Albemarle Sound near Edenton Municipal Airport.

Fiberform is a 24-year-old boat building division of U. S. Industries. USI announced recently a corporate decision to sell a number of divisions, among them Fiberform. The local plant was shut down following the announcement.

The Edenton plant was originally built by ChrisCraft Corporation to make fiberglass pleasure boats. It was later sold to Fiberform which had maintained production until recently.

Unlike USI and other conglomerates that took over boat manufacturing firms in the 1960' and 1970s, Bayliner only manufactures boats -- both power boats and sailboats.

Terms of the agreement between Bayliner and USI were not disclosed by Bayliner, a privately held company. The purchaser said that all Fiberform tooling, equipment and properties, are included. In addition to the Edenton plant, Fiberform also operated a plant in Spokane, Wash.

Bayliner president V. H. (Slim) Sommerville, said the intention is to reactivate the production of Fiberform boats but that it would be operated as a separate division with its own management group.

Bill Bongers, one time executive vice president of Fiberform, has been named to head up the new operation as its president.

Present plans of Bayliner call for the Edenton plant to be operated as an extension of manufacturing for Bayliner products rather than Fiberform.

Bayliner presently builds both power boats and sail boats from 15 to 42 feet in length. Projected sales for 1982 are in excess of \$60-million.

Sommerville said the manufacturing plant in Edenton is now being organized with tentative opening scheduled prior to the end of the year.

Bayliner has a plant in Arlington, Wash., just outside Seattle, Pipestone, Minn., and Valdosta, Ga. At present the company has more than 900 employees.

This is Bayliner's 27th year. Both power boats and sail boats -- a total of 39 models-are currently being manufactured at Valdosta.

Aces Overwhelm Eagles, 20-3

The Edenton Aces rolled to a convincing 20-3 opening game win over the Northeastern Eagles Friday night. An alert Edenton defense scored two of the Aces three TD's.

The Aces will play Roanoke Rapids Friday in their first conference game. The game will be held in Roanoke Rapids.

Northeastern received the opening kickoff, and on their first play from scrimmage, fumbled. The ball was recovered by Edenton's 220-pound junior noseguard, Ernest Riddick. Riddick, voted Edenton's most valuable defensive player in the game against the Eagle's, helped to seal off Northeastern's inside running game, as well as recovering two fumbles.

Five plays after the fumble recovery, Tony Creecy, a 195-pound running back for Edenton,

scored from three yards out. This was the only time the Edenton offense managed to score, due to fumbles and penalties, plus an unyielding defense by Northeastern.

But the Edenton defense proved to be equally as tough. They allowed only one score by Northeastern all night, this being a 26-yard field goal by William Morris with 8:20 left in the first half. According to the Aces head coach, Jimmy Addison, the defense, "played like a seasoned ball club."

Continued on page 4

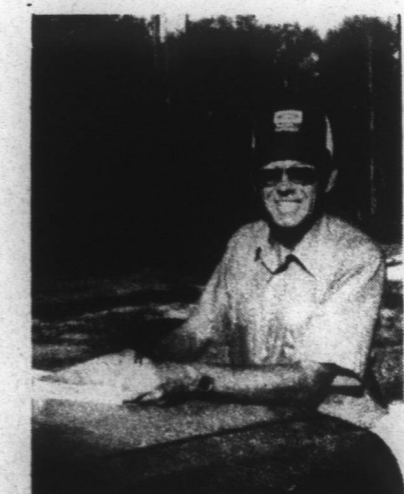
Mr. Harrell Is Appointed

Robert S. Harrell of Edenton has recently been appointed to the Board of Supervisors of the Albemarle Soil and Water Conservation District.

The Albemarle District is composed of the five Northeastern counties of North Carolina which include Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Pasquotank and Perquimans.

Three elected supervisors from each county and one appointed supervisor make up the district board. The supervisors are charged with the responsibility of coordinating all the resource activities within the Albemarle District.

Harrell's main function in the district will be that of chaplain. He replaces Rev. Rand Stallings from Currituck County. He will also be working directly with the Chowan Conservation Committee, assisting them with their on-going conservation program. Other members of the Chowan committee are Lloyd C. Bunch, Watson Earl White, and H. Fahey Byrum.



Robert S. Harrell



Mrs. John F. White

Services Are Held For Mrs. White

Graveside services were held Monday for Mrs. John F. White, 501 North Broad Street. The services were held in Beaver Hill Cemetery.

Rev. Raymond Storie and Rev. Robert White officiated. Mrs. White, 71, died suddenly early Sunday morning at her home.

Mrs. Carolyn Juanita Bunch White was a native of Chowan County. She was born October 13, 1909, daughter of the late William W. and Viola Elliott Bunch. She was the widow of John F. White, local attorney and legislator.

Mrs. White was retired from Edenton - Chowan Schools where she taught for 25 years. In recent years she served as a tour guide with Historic Edenton.

She was a member of St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

Surviving is a daughter, Mrs. Carolyn W. Raines of Edenton; three sisters: Mrs. W. I. Hart of Southern Pines and Mrs. Marguerite Burch and Mrs. Maxine Hollowell, both of Edenton; and three grand children.

Williford - Barham Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.



Samuel W. Noble, Jr.