



LOTS OF BRASS — There was a large congregation of state and local officials at Friday night's meeting of Northeastern North Carolina Tomorrow at Elizabeth City State University. State Trooper M. J. McArthur of Edenton was chosen to drive for Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., left. With them is Sec. Joe Grimsley of the State Department of Natural Resources & Community Development.

Hunt, Jones Issue Criticism

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in common purpose."

The governor said the region has the assets that count the most — hardworking, self-reliant and productive people, abundant natural resources; a strong sense of regional identity and one of the best public educational systems in the state. He cited test scores in public schools which show tremendous improvement and the strong colleges, consisting of Elizabeth City State University, where the meeting was held and five community colleges.

"This decade of the 80's can be the most important in the 400 year history of Northeastern North Carolina," he asserted.

Joe Parker of Ahoskie, interim chairman of a 60-member board, presided and moved quickly through an after-dinner program which included several speakers. Among them were Dr. Marion Thorpe, chancellor of the host university who called ECSU a "commiversity" and pledged his continuing support of the program.

Raleigh Carver, chairman of Pasquotank County commissioners, Rev. Howard L.

Rebate Is Ok'd

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seat vacated by Allen Hornthal in last week's meeting should be included in the voting, defeating the issue. An open discussion ensued between Council members and the audience.

After fifteen minutes of this, the Council quickly changed positions. Hollowell resubmitted his motion and the Council unanimously passed it. Councilman Steve Hampton then made a motion to refund 20 per cent of the total Vepco rebate to both residential and commercial users, basing it on the consumers usage of kilowatt hours during last October.

The audience, along with Councilman Fenner, was against this, wanting the money to be used for Edenton's sewer system. The Council, however, felt that since they had voted last September to give a rebate to the customers, it was the best compromise possible. The motion was passed by a vote of 4-1, with Fenner being the lone holdout.

According to Noble, "As soon as we get the calculations compiled, then the refund will be made to the customers. I would think the refund would be made no later than the May billing, and no sooner than the April billing."

Mitchell, a board member; Roberts Jernigan, vice chairman, State board of Natural Resources and Community Development; Sen. J. J. (Monk) Harrington, chairman of the Northeastern Caucus of legislators in the 16-county region; Dr. John D. Neville, executive secretary of the 400th Anniversary Committee; Marc Basnight, a member of the N. C. Board of Transportation; and Charles Fitts, a member of the N. C. Board of Economic Development.

Parker announced that the next meeting will be held April 21, which has been designated as the annual meeting. President Bill Friday of the University of North Carolina system will be keynote speaker.

C. A. Phillips, Cliff Copeland, Gilliam Wood and L. F. Amburn, Jr., are members of the board from Chowan County.

Jump-A-Thon

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gets a Jump Rope for Heart pin. Students collecting \$15.00 - \$24.00 receive patches. T-shirts go to students turning in \$25.00 - \$99.00. Nylon windbreakers go to students collecting more than \$100.00 and aren't on the winning team. The winning team is a team that combined collected more than \$200.00 and collected the most money in the school. Everyone on this team gets warm up suits.

What do the hard working adults get? Mrs. Germanaro, Swain chairman, and Mrs. Bunch, Walker chairman receive warm up suits. All their assistants receive T-shirts. Mr. Underwood, Swain principal, and Mr. Cole, Walker principal, received wind breakers.

So watch for this event and be prepared to help these students raise money for the Heart Fund. They need you to do it. We all need the American Heart Association.

Dr. Martha Wood Taken In Death

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William N. Michal, Sr. of Edenton; and two grandchildren.

Funeral services will be held Friday at 3:30 P.M. at St. Pauls Episcopal Church by Rev. Raymond Storie. Burial will follow at Beaver Hill Cemetery. The family, which will meet at her home at 115 W. King Street, suggests that in lieu of flowers memorial contributions be made to St. Pauls Church or the American Cancer Society.

District Court

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loud-boisterous language, 10 fine and cost of court. Appealed.

Gerald Thomas Lassiter, loud-boisterous language, \$10 fine and cost of court.

Oras Carlie Blount, worthless check, 30 days suspended 2 years, \$50 fine and cost of court, restitution of \$45 to Quinn Furniture. He took 30 days commitment.

Michael Rankins, aid-abetting and entering-larceny, probable cause was found and the case was bound over to Superior Court.

Linda Lou Hill, shoplifting, 60 days suspended sentence, \$75 fine and cost of court, ordered to remain off the premises of Mack's for 2 years.

Dian Hill, larceny, 6 months suspended sentence, \$150 fine and cost of court, ordered to remain off the premises of Mack's for 3 years.

York Hayes, nonsupport of child, 120 days suspended 3 years, cost of court, ordered to pay \$25 per week child support.

Problem Solved

Edenton recently received good news, in the form of a letter from Governor Jim Hunt addressed to F. L. Fagan, President of the Edenton-Chowan Chamber of Commerce.

In the letter Hunt said the problem about the closing of the Employment Security Commission offices has apparently been resolved. He said the Regan Administration reversed its position, and Congress has voted to restore the funding. As a result of this, the 48 ESC offices, including Edenton's, will remain open and the 230 employees will continue helping unemployed people find jobs.

Governor Hunt said, "I believe the expressions of concern from many North Carolinians, including you (F. L. Fagan), played an important part in the action. I wrote Congressman Natcher, chairman of the House subcommittee considering the legislation to inform him of the hundreds of letters I'd received from all over the state. I told him of our feeling that, as the national economy goes deeper into recession and unemployment continues to climb, it is senseless to further weaken our ability to find jobs for people who are out of work. Your voice was heard and I thank you for getting involved."

Rep. Jones To Seek Re-Election To Post

FARMVILLE — Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Congressional District, said last week that he will seek a ninth two-year term in the U. S. Congress.

The congressman, who serves as chairman of one of only 14 standing committees in the House of Representatives, made his decision public prior to starting out on a tour of the 21-county district.

He said he is fully recovered from the abdominal surgery that slowed him down last fall.

"The seniority I've accumulated will stand in good stead, and as for my health, I've turned the corner," he is quoted as saying.

Rep. Jones is chairman of the powerful House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, ranks third in congressional service among the 11-man North Carolina delegation.

According to reports there has been no indication he will have opposition from another member of the Democratic party. The Republicans also are not expected to field a viable candidate. Malcolm Howard of Greenville, First District GOP chairman, said he didn't expect Rep. Jones to have any opposition. Howard is a past victim of the popular congressman.

Rep. Jones went to Washington in 1966 after winning in a special election to fill out the unexpired term of the late Rep. Herbert Bonner. He has had only token opposition since that time in primary or general elections.

Among those who have tried unsuccessfully to unseat him is John P. East, a professor at East Carolina University in Greenville, who is now the junior U. S. Senator from North Carolina.



VALENTINE'S DAY COLLISION RESULTS IN EXTENSIVE DAMAGE — Valentine's Day was not an enjoyable occasion to Mrs. Mildred M. Lassiter of Roxbury, Mass., driving a 1980 Cadillac Eldorado, which was crossing the road. Damage done to the 1980 Cadillac Eldorado driven by Mrs. Lassiter neared the \$4000 mark. The cow was slaughtered at a loss of \$400.

FHA Home Loan Eligibility Rules Are Revised

The U. S. Department of Agriculture has changed its regulations to make it possible for more people to get single-family home loans through USDA's Farmers Home Administration.

Larry W. Godwin, state director of the N. C. USDA rural credit agency, said the revised rules change the income eligibility criteria, permit funds for approved solar heating, and make numerous changes to clarify and simplify operation of the agency's single-family housing programs. The Farmers Home Administration has a wide range of housing programs, including mortgage loans for single-family homes, housing repair and rehabilitation loans, rural rental housing, farm labor housing, and self-help housing loans.

Before the new regulations were implemented, they were reviewed and revised extensively, Godwin said.

One of the major changes is the elimination of a single, nationwide income eligibility level. Previously, only families with incomes below \$15,600 were considered eligible for Farmers Home housing loans, except in Alaska and Hawaii.

Income ceilings now vary by economic areas and are based on a percentage of the area median income. Low income is defined as 80 per cent of the area median income.

Applicants who qualify for moderate-income loans will pay interest rates prevailing when the loan is closed. The current interest rate charged by Farmers Home is 13.25 per cent.

For those with incomes at or below 80 per cent of the area median income level, the agency provides "interest credits," which

reduce the amount of interest the borrower pays, sometimes to as low as one per cent.

Using data developed by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Farmers Home Administration now sets income eligibility limits in more than 500 economic areas throughout the nation.

Income eligibility ranges from \$17,000 in some of the nation's poorer counties to \$23,500 in the more affluent areas, and up to \$33,000 in Alaska. The low-income levels at which applicants become eligible for "interest credits," range from \$11,500 to \$18,000.

In addition, the new regulations reduced the size of allowable living area in new homes to 1,200 square feet from 1,300 square feet.

North Carolina income eligibility ranges from \$20,500 to \$17,500. The low-income levels in North Carolina at which applicants become eligible for "interest credits," range from \$15,000 to \$12,000. Income limits in Chowan County is \$19,000 with "interest credits" being available to families whose income does not exceed \$13,500.

The North Carolina agency operates a statewide program of housing, farm, and community facility loans through 84 county offices, 12 district offices and a state headquarters in Raleigh, N.C. Loans are made without regard to race, sex, religion, national origin, marital status, or handicapped condition.

Persons interested in FmHA's loan programs may obtain additional information from the local county office. The address is Post Office Box 47, Hertford, N.C. 27944.

Reapportionment Plan Is Approved

The General Assembly has been reapportioned as well as the North Carolina seats in the U. S. Congress. The action in Raleigh last week might, however, still be tested in court.

Northeastern North Carolina's First Senatorial District was divided into two single-representative districts. Sen. Melvin R. Daniels of Pasquotank will represent the First District, which excludes Chowan and Perquimans counties and picks up Pamlico. Sen. J. J. (Monk) Harrington of Bertie will represent the other traditionally Northeastern counties, plus Beaufort. The Harrington district is one of the predominately minority area (52 per cent Negro).

On the other side, the First House District is still a two-member region. However, the area picks up a portion of Gates County and loses a portion of Washington County. Reps. Charles Evans of Dare County and Rep. Vernon James of Pasquotank are the representatives.

The First Congressional District, a strong-hold for Rep. Walter B. Jones of Farmville,

picks up Northampton County and loses Jones County.

Sen. Harrington has stated his agreement with the redistricting. As a member of the Senate panel on redistricting, Harrington admits that he hand picked the counties he wanted. Sen. Daniels has yelled "foul" and three local governments have supported his plea not to break off Chowan and Perquimans from the traditional Albemarle Area, east of the Chowan River.

However, at a meeting in Elizabeth City last Friday, Sen. Harrington said while the prime responsibility of a member of the General Assembly is to look after the people, it is also necessary for legislators to look after themselves.

Rep. John Gilliam of Bertie and others concerned with redistricting which would split as many as five counties to make a district have vowed to fight the plan in court. Leading the charge is Phil Godwin of Gates County, a former legislator who served as Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Mrs. Lassiter, Cow Collide

On Feb. 14 at approximately 6:30 P.M., Mildred M. Lassiter of Roxbury, Mass., driving a 1980 Cadillac Eldorado, collided with one of four full-grown Black Angus cows as they were crossing Greenhall Road in central Chowan County near Cowboy White's farm.

Mrs. Lassiter's Cadillac, which was towed to George Chevrolet for repair, sustained close to \$4000 worth of damage. The 2000 pound cow, owned by Joseph C. Hall of Edenton, had to be slaughtered at a loss of \$400.

Trooper M. J. McArthur, the investigating officer, stated that cautious driving on the part of Mrs. Lassiter allowed her to escape the accident uninjured.

Schedule Is Reviewed

Chowan County has reviewed the schedule of values assigned to all farm, commercial and personal vehicles listed within the county. To more accurately reflect local market conditions, the previously assigned vehicle values will be reduced by 20 per cent. In making this revision, Chowan County reaffirms its policy of openness and fairness in the administration of its tax policies. According to Dallas Jethro, Jr., tax supervisor.

Primary Date To Be Chosen

The General Assembly, during the Extra Session of 1982 which ended on February 11, 1982 adopted legislation directing the State Board of Elections to order the 1982 primary elections as well as set the filing period for candidates who wish to file for the offices of U. S. Congress, State Senate and State House. The State Board is required to order the primaries and filing period based upon the date on which the three apportionment plans are "approved" by the U. S. Department of Justice. Therefore, there is no appropriate way to predict when the primary will be scheduled. Unless there is practically immediate approval by the Justice Department, then it would seem reasonable that the primary will not be held earlier than June 1st.

All wire services and other media representatives located in Raleigh will be notified the instant the State Board sets a date for the primary. In addition, written notification will go out to all county boards of elections on the same date.

A fanatic is simply an individual who knows that he is right.

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