

Continued From Page 1
County the figure is placed at \$243,449, the vast majority of it being in payroll. The local financial input is a meager \$1,650.

The value of the land and buildings of the armories in the state stands at \$65.8-million. The new Edenton Armory has a value of \$553,560.

Here's how Sec. Herman R. Clark of the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety puts it: "Most of us recognize the contribution the National Guard makes to the state in defense of our liberties.

"Few, however, recognize the tremendous contribution made by the National Guard in terms of the economy. The wages paid to the men and women of the Guard equal the payrolls of some of our largest industries. Local purchases of equipment and other needs also make a great contribution to the economy.

"The bulk of the \$58-million comes in the form of payroll from the federal government. This money that is spent in the local communities where the men and women of the National Guard train and live.

"Needless to say, we would be a much poorer state if the National Guard was not present in so many of our communities," Clark said. "And it is not in money terms along that I speak of. A Guardsman is a good citizen, and he makes his community better by being a part of it."

Therefore, the National Guard is a sound industry along the Public Parade. We should never miss a chance to give support.

Guest Editorial

The following guest editorial, "State Medicaid Program", was presented February 26 on WRAL-TV in Raleigh by J. D. Lewis:

Medicaid is a program that provides health services to the very poor, those among us with less than \$2,700 annual income for a family of two.

The N. C. General Assembly, in an effort to curtail abuse, and to accommodate federal budget cuts, last October made some changes in the state's Medicaid program. These changes went into effect December 1, and are already imposing some hardships on some of our indigent citizens.

A change that's having an immediate effect is the one placed on the number of drug prescriptions that can be filled and billed to the Medicaid program.

"In any one month no more than four new prescriptions or refills will be paid for each beneficiary." There are only 2 exceptions: outpatient cancer victims and those with renal disease.

Many elderly sick people on maintenance medication need more than four prescriptions a month to combat their failing health. High blood pressure patients often have that many in order to keep their blood pressure in check. If they fall victim to any other malady, which sometimes happens, their suffering is increased for lack of money to buy additional medicine. Once again, we punish the victim, maybe inadvertently, but the suffering is no less.

We applaud the General Assembly's effort to curtail abuse, but we feel that more exceptions should be made in the regulations to accommodate the chronically ill whose income is too meager to ensure good health protection.



PROJECT TAKES PATIENCE — Carroll Bunch of 418 E. Church Street in Edenton recently completed this clipper-type ship, which is 4½ feet long, 3½ feet tall, and 1 foot wide. The amazing thing is that the ship is constructed from wooden matches, over 10,000, which were burned to give a pattern on the ship. According to its builder, who added that he is interested in selling the ship, between 300 and 350 hours are invested in the project.

Blood Donations

Continued From Page 1
Board by Graham Farless. The system is said to be in excellent shape, and there seems to be no reason to not receive expansion of the pumping capacity at Brayhill Plant.

The Commissioners next agreed to buy a larger car for the Sheriff's Dept., one that would hold up better and offer better protection.

Following the request for relief of taxes, which was passed, and informational items, the meeting was adjourned.

Sentence

Continued From Page 1
Indecent language, not guilty.

Toni Denise Valentine, shoplifting, 6 months suspended 2 years, \$100 fine and cost of court, ordered not to go on the premises of Mack's for 2 years.

Zone Ordinance

Continued From Page 1
minated and that a new lease be approved were also approved. Their final recommendation was to receive sealed bids for the purchase of a new van or bus for the Recreation Dept. This was also approved.

The Utility Committee report was next. Their only recommendation was that the old sewer rodder for the Town of Edenton be declared surplus and disposed of by private negotiation. This was approved.

The Tree Committee report was the last report heard. Councilman W. H. Hollowell said that Rod Swink and Tex Cunsel of the State Forestry Dept. had been in Edenton earlier that day to give demonstrations on tree pruning and tree care. He also recommended that a Town Tree Board be organized and established according to the Tree Ordinance established by the Town Council. He included in his recommendation that Chuck Sopher, Frances Inglis, Peggy Ann Vaughan, Susan Creighton and Mary Peele be named the first members, with Hollowell acting as an ex officio (non-voting) member. This was approved.

Following payment of Town bills, the meeting was adjourned.

Investigation

Continued From Page 1
with the fisheries group, wasn't too optimistic about the future. "In my opinion the Albemarle Sound fishing industry is depressed and I don't anticipate a recovery any time soon," he noted.

Agriculture has surfaced as a dragon in the basins. A study showed that a major pollutant to local waters was agricultural run off. D. G. Harwood of the N. C. Agricultural Extension Service told the group that the problem is being attacked via encouragement to farmers to implement better management practices. He added that this is financially beneficial to farmers and he anticipates full cooperation while there is little that the state can do to regulate farmers.

The role of local leaders was discussed during the afternoon session by Capt. Alfred Howard of Arrowhead Beach, chairman of the Chowan River Restoration Task Force.

Members of the new Chowan-Albemarle Legislative Study Commission were in attendance. Included on the commission are David Bateman and Stan Hege, both of Chowan County.

Hunt Proclaims Older Worker Week

EDENTON — In an age of shrinking budgets and increased emphasis on maximum productivity, the value of the older worker should not be overlooked as a means to increase efficiency. This is the message of Employ the Older Worker Week in North Carolina, March 14-20.

Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., proclaimed the observance to coincide with National Employ the Older Worker Week. The national observance has emphasized the importance of older workers for more than 20 years.

"National Employ the Older Worker Week is an annual means of focusing public attention on the importance of using this valuable employment resource," said Bill Taylor, older worker specialist in the local Job Service Office. "When you realize that more than two million North Carolinians, two-thirds of them are in the civilian labor force of the state, are 40 years old and older, you begin to see how important it is that we make good use of their experience and knowledge."

Job Service Offices have participated in Employ the Older Worker Week for more than 20 years as a part of a year-round emphasis on placement of older job-seekers. Since 1967, congressional legislation has mandated equal opportunity and non-discrimination for people on the basis of age.

"In spite of our continued efforts to inform employers and the general public of the advantages of hiring older workers," Taylor said, "this group continues to have problems of unemployment. The emphasis our society places on youth seems to undermine our attempts to show that employing older workers makes good business sense."

Bloodmobile On March 16th

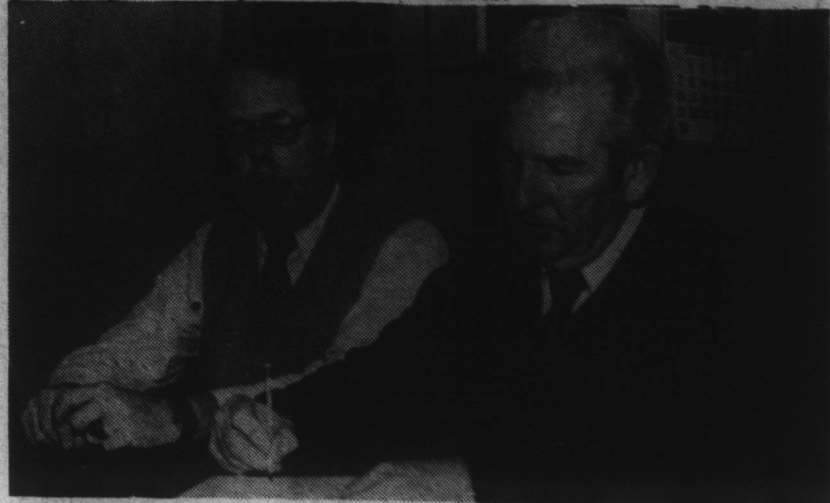
The Bloodmobile will visit Edenton on March 16, at the American Legion Building from 12 noon until 6 P.M.

To meet the urgent need for donors, the Chamber has been asked to contact area businesses and manufacturers to enlist their support. You will be visited this week to discuss how your organization can help.

Chowan County residents use more units of blood during a month than is collected at the bi-monthly visits of the bloodmobile. The support of all of our citizens is needed for this vital program.

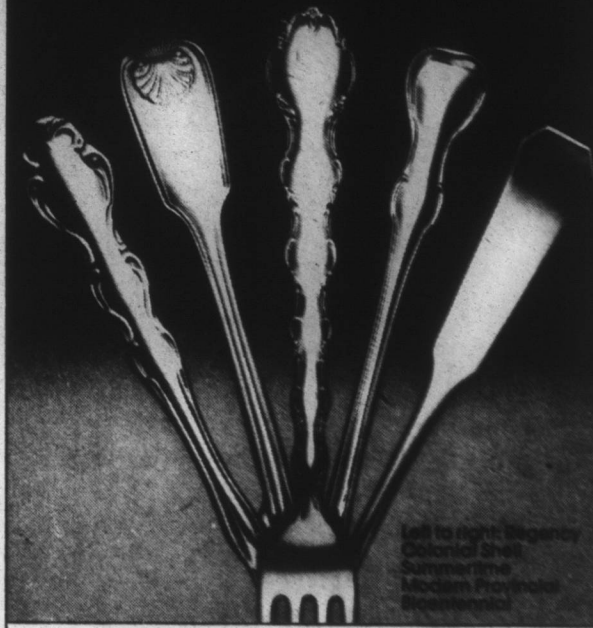
Taylor explained that workers hired after age 40 generally reach higher performance ratings more quickly than their younger counterparts. They tend to have a more positive work attitude, greater job stability and lower

absenteeism. "We urge employers to consider older workers when they are hiring," Taylor said. "At Job Service, we will help match employer needs with applicant skills."



EMPLOY THE OLDER WORKER WEEK — Mayor Roy Harrell, right, signs a proclamation declaring March 14-20 as Employ the Older Worker Week as Bill Taylor, older worker specialist in the local Job Service Office looks on. This national observance has emphasized the importance of older workers for more than 20 years.

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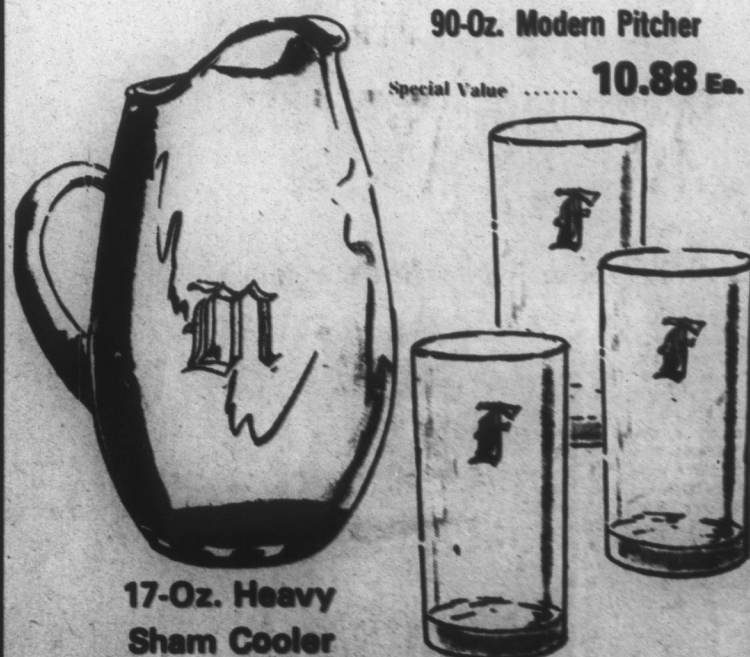
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