

They're Off!

The Democratic Primary election is now definite. It will be held on June 29, which is little more than six weeks away.

This will be an unusual election along the Public Parade due to the absence of a race for the State Senate and House. Sen. J. J. (Monk) Harrington of Lewiston is running unopposed for another two-year term. Such is also the case for Reps. Vernon James of Pasquotank and Charles Evans of Dare.

There is no lack of candidates on the Chowan County scene. Races have developed for three seats on the Chowan County Board of Commissioners as well as open positions for the Edenton-Chowan Board of Education.

So, they're off in all directions and there's a lot of fair game available between now and election day—June 29. Voters have ample time to ask questions and obtain firm answers from the candidates. By such a dialogue the election will have substance and not be merely a personality contest.

In these serious economic times, there is no way elected officials, or would-be candidates, can be all things to all people. This is especially true along the Public Parade this year because 1982 is the year of property revaluation. While revaluation is a necessary evil, it should be used to obtain more equal values for tax purposes than as a vehicle to open up the budget.

The cost of government is hit by inflation harder than in much of the private sector. Budgeting becomes more of a guessing game, or poker at the highest stakes. Those in places of authority must guard against governing with emotion. And if the tax value of property doubles we cannot expect the tax rate to be cut in half and the same services be provided. Chowan County officials played politics with the tax rate eight years ago, at probably the worst time ever, and the mistake has finally been corrected through prudent management.

Two of the three candidates seeking to unseat incumbents on the county commission have been closely identified with education. The incumbents they oppose cannot be painted as anti-education, for the local contribution to the school budget stands well with other counties of our nature throughout Tar Heelia. This is not to say that the opponents of existing board members are running on a pure education platform; but they will have to answer hard questions about their positions on county matters in general. And as in most instances, money alone won't solve all the problems of the county.

Likewise, candidates for the school board must tell the voters how they will conduct themselves. They can't get by with saying they are for a better school system. This is like being in favor of motherhood and apple pie. In times of economic depression those in leadership positions must be innovative to a greater degree. Candidates must be asked how they would accomplish more, or at least the same, with fewer dollars.

There are a lot of needs along the Public Parade. All of them cannot be met in a year or two, or even a decade. Planning is important and it must be realistically approached. Priorities must be established, but not set in concrete. Goals need to be achievable. And political candidates must be evaluated on what they can do, based on the best answers they give to searching questions.

The voters have six weeks to become familiar with the candidate, who more often than not is different from the same person who wasn't a candidate in the past. The winners will shape the future of this community, and to elect someone second best just because they can give you the answers they think you want to hear will be disastrous.

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Zoning Ordinance Amended By Town Council

By Richard Williams

The polite term is "tension." John Mitchener III spoke for some twenty minutes supporting his view on the Zoning Ordinance laws. John Donovan administered an opposing argument.

Mayor Roy Harrell, flanked by his councilmen and a vacant seat overlooked the large gathering in his usual, calm fashion. Business went on as usual.

Tuesday night Edenton Town Council instilled a bit of optimism in the hearts of this town's youth, as they voted unanimously to amend the definition of game parlors, and voted that these games could be placed in any of the four zoning districts.

The amendment states that game parlors shall be allowed as a permitted use in Highway Commercial, Shopping Center, Downtown Commercial districts and as a special use subject to the Edenton Zoning Board of Adjustments and appeals' approved in the Neighborhood Commercial district.

Any more than two machines in

any one business would classify the said business as a game parlor, according to the amended definition.

Vernon Austin, proprietor of Ladall Distributor and Music Center has four such machines in his building. He expresses, "I wish for my business to be exempted."

Austin's Machines were in-

Brandon Files For House Seat

Thomas B. (Tom) Brandon, III, of Robersonville, announced Friday that he has filed for a seat in the U. S. House of Representatives for the First Congressional District of North Carolina.

Brandon, who is an attorney who lives in Robersonville, stated that if elected he would do his best to represent all of the people in the First District well, and added that he would give the tobacco and peanut farmers the quality of representation that the nation's dairy farmers were getting.

stalled prior to the amendment of the constitution. According to Administrator Sam Noble, Austin could plead his case under a grandfather clause and not lose any of his machines.

The Space Escape, where most of the controversy centers, was a game parlor located in downtown Edenton. It occupied the old Roses building for six months. In the fifth month of its operation, Mitchener, the owner of the building was contacted by Home Security Life Insurance Company. They expressed an interest in renting the building.

Mitchener then optioned to move the Space Escape game room across the corridor of the two-part building. His attempt was blocked by the Council because the building did not meet code restriction law standards.

"A game area doesn't belong in a historic district," said Donovan. It creates adverse affects on a lot of our residents."

In a rebuttal, Mitchener said, "a game room is wholesome family fun. It can be beneficial and an

asset to the entire community."

Littering up the streets from kids became a major complaint from many opposing the game room.

"We don't shut down grocery stores because there is trash in the parking lots; neither do we close down historic monuments" because of childplay, he said.

In financial matters it was passed that the Council sell one 1972 Broadmore Mobile Home to Chowan Hospital, Inc. for \$1,000. It was passed that the Council hire Anderson, Benton, and Holmes, Inc. to prepare a community Development Block Grant application for a fee of \$2,000. It was

Hospital To Host Bloodmobile

Chowan Hospital will host an American Red Cross bloodmobile in its educational wing on Tuesday, from 12-noon to 6 P.M.

Sponsored by the Edenton Jaycees, the drive is being held at the hospital for the first time, though the hospital will become

also passed by the Council that they amend the "Town of Edenton Pay and Classification Plan."

Albemarle Ford was awarded the bid for a 15 passenger van for \$11,450.

It was passed that the Council accept a \$47,000 grant offer from the state to aid in the construction of sewer lines in the Coke Avenue area.

It was passed that the Council grant Chowan County Hospital, Inc. the land on which part of Annex "C" is presently built with the stipulation that the deed not be signed until a deed is granted to the Town of Edenton for the land on which a water pumping station is currently located on the site.

the permanent site of the Jaycees' drive. Individuals needing additional information or wishing to schedule an appointment for donation should contact Bruce Wacklin at 482-7436. The goal for the drive is 150 units of blood.

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NEW LOGO — Chowan County has a new logo to be put on display in Washington, D.C. John Becker, left, and Francis Inglis, center, stand with C.A. Phillips, chairman of the Chowan County Commissioners, around the new logo.

Unemployment Rate Slowing

RALEIGH--"North Carolina experienced a broad decline in insured unemployment rates in April," reports Chairman Glenn R. Jernigan of the Employment Security Commission.

According to Jernigan, rates declined in 84 of the state's counties. "This leads us to believe that a slow improvement in the economy had begun," he noted.

The state's insured unemployment rate at 4.5 per cent in April was down from the 5.3 per cent figure for March. "While conditions have improved,"

Jernigan said, "the April rate is significantly above the 2.8 per cent experienced in April, 1981."

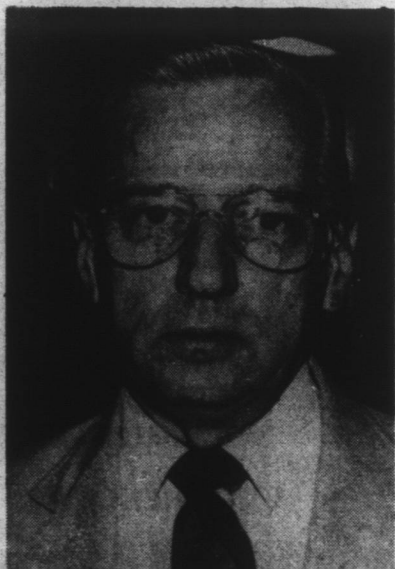
The insured unemployment rate in Chowan County last month was equal to the statewide average. Only two counties in the Albemarle Area—Pasquotank (3.3) and Dare (4.1)—were below the Chowan figure.

The percentages in other area counties were:

Camden, 9.4; Currituck, 7.1; Gates, 7.1; Hyde, 7; Perquimans, 7.4; Tyrrell, 13.4; and Washington, 8.5.

Clough Is New Belks Asst. Manager

George Moore, General Merchandise Manager for Belk Tyler, announces the appointment of Edwin K. Clough as Assistant Manager for Belk Tyler. In his new assignment, Clough will be responsible for general merchandising as well as operational responsibilities for the store.



Edwin K. Clough

Clough, a native of Virginia, attended Bob Jones University, Greenville, South Carolina and numerous retail training schools both with the Singer Corporation and the Belk Organization. Clough joined the Singer Company in 1947 and retired in 1979. At the time of his retirement, he was manager of the Singer Store in Hampton, Virginia. Clough joined Belk Tyler in the Elizabeth City Store as a Division Merchandise Manager in September of 1979. At the time of his transfer to Edenton, he was responsible for the buying, promotion, and sales supervision for piece goods, home furnishings, housewares, fine china, crystal, silver, electronics, and fine gifts.

Clough is married to the former Vereda Keen of Wilmington, Delaware and the couple have four children: Edwin K., Jr., Steven, Stanley, and Alinda. The Cloughs are planning to relocate to Edenton from Elizabeth City.

Committee Selects Becker Drawing

A logo for Chowan County depicting symbols of the county's characteristics, its history, architecture, government and means of earning a living, has been chosen. Much work by many people has gone into the process of creating this logo. Through advertising, newspaper articles, school projects and requests to special individuals, suggestions and drawings of proposed logos were solicited. The response was gratifying - drawings were received from students and from individuals throughout the county.

The Logo Committee, consisting of John Becker, Chairman; Elizabeth Moore, Brenda Winborne, Keith McCleese, Fran Ward and Frances Inglis, studied each drawing. They made a list of all items depicted in the drawings. Then they decided which elements

they thought both represented the county best and also would show up well on a logo.

Six artists were asked to submit logos depicting these chosen elements: 1) The name of the county and state within an outer circle, the names being separated by small drawings of an arrowhead and the Edenton tea pot. 2) In the inner circle, the county court house with the date of the county's founding, 1668, above it. Below it, a fish representing the fishing industry and water resources for recreation and three distinctive crops: peanuts, corn and cotton.

Six drawings were received - Two of the committee members, Keith McCleese and John Becker had been asked to submit, so of course they disqualified themselves from judging. Additional

judges, Carol Sick, Jake Boyce and Roland Vaughan joined the committee in choosing John Becker's drawing as the winning one. John Becker's final rendition incorporates ideas from the drawings of several of the other artists. This drawing was approved and accepted by the County Commissioners at their May meeting.

The logo will be used on county vehicles, stationery, seals, etc. It will appear in the Rotunda of the National Association of Counties new building in Washington, D. C. The logo there will be reproduced on a small bronze plaque along with one from each of the other counties in the U.S.A.

All of the drawings submitted from each artists, student and adult, are on view at the Shepard-Pruden Library. The committee is grateful to each of these artists whose efforts, together, have produced a logo for Chowan County.

Stewart Joins Avoca Division

WINSTON-SALEM--John E. Stewart has joined the Avoca Division of RJR Technical Company as a senior chemical engineer.

Stewart is responsible for process improvements and overall technical support at the Avoca

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Judge Beamon Presides Over May Session Of District Court

The Chowan County District Court met in a regular session May 11 and was presided over by Grafton G. Beamon. The following cases were heard.

Emanuel Johnson, disobeying a stop sign, \$25 fine and cost of court. Appealed.

John Henry Cooper, 45 MPH in a 35 MPH zone, \$5 fine and cost of court.

Calvin Ferebee, trespassing, 30 days suspended 12 months, \$15 fine and cost of court.

Junious Blount, making a false fire alarm call, 60 days suspended 2 years, \$35 fine and cost of court, restitution of \$75 to the Town of Edenton.

Fifty Participate In Symposium

EDENTON - Fifty persons from North Carolina, Virginia and Maryland participated in the recent sixth biennial Edenton Symposium, "Southern Folk and Decorative Arts Before the Civil War."

The event was co-sponsored by the Edenton Historical Commission and the East Carolina University Division of Continuing Education.

Speakers included Carolyn Weekly of the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Center, Williamsburg; John Bivins of the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts, Winston-Salem; Dr. Charles Zug of UNC-Chapel Hill and Dr. Thomas Parramore of Meredith College.

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HERRING RUN PARTICIPANT — This runner strides towards the finish in one of the events in last weeks Herring Run. Over 100 runners finished the events, and new records were set in several of those events.

Bloodmobile To Visit Chowan Hospital Noon - 6 P.M. On May 18 - Quota: 150 Pints