



## Public Parade

### Results Of Campaign

The biennial primary election along the Public Parade and throughout Tar Heelia is now history. Unfortunately, reminders of the campaigning linger on.

Campaigning was heavy in Edenton and Chowan County, leading up to the June 29th election. There was a strong visibility push for almost all of the candidates.

Printed posters were plastered from one end of the county to the other. They are, without question, an important part of any campaign. But, now that the election is over it is time to get the posters removed. They are results of a campaign past and don't need to be a constant reminder to the motoring public.

Candidates for public office should be required to sign a commitment when they file for election which obligates them to be just as aggressive in getting the posters down as they were in getting them mailed up.

If political parties cannot control the candidates, then it is the responsibility of local government to regulate posters. Regardless of who takes the lead, the results of a campaign needs to be addressed.

### Big Fourth!

The Chowan - Edenton Optimist Club put the "big pot in the little one" again Sunday. It was the club's Third Annual Fourth of July celebration along the Public Parade.

This event already rivals the Edenton - Chowan Peanut Festival as a top drawer attraction, which provides a tremendous amount of fun and fellowship without a maximum drain on the pocket-book.

The celebration is the Optimist Club's primary function and it speaks well of a small group of dedicated people who have the entire community in mind. Other civic organizations, with scores of years under their belt, could take a lesson from the Optimists.

Attendance at Sunday's festivities was great. Estimates of the crowd range up to the 15,000 figure. And that's a lot of folks, by any standards, and they were well behaved.

Always the focal point of the Fourth of July celebration is the fireworks display. Therefore, the organizers have never skimped in this category. This year was no exception as the beautiful display was breath-taking.

Labor Day will be the next general holiday along the Public Parade. Will anyone be willing to test the Optimists and their Big Fourth?

### Guest Editorial

As the Reagan Administration looks for ways to cut federal spending, we hope they will soon discover...and change...the federal law that requires taxpayers to pay through the nose for such jobs as housing authority maintenance employees.

How about paying \$100,000 a year for an elevator repairman? How does that strike you? How about \$11.20 an hour for common laborers; \$50,000 a year for ironworkers?

There are thousands of these high-paying jobs - all subsidized by the American taxpayer.

One elevator repairman made \$80,000 in one year, just in overtime!

The original Davis - Bacon Act was passed in 1931 to protect local workers from cheap competition. But now the original idea has been grossly distorted and abused. We think the Act should be repealed.

Such undeserved high wages are a rip-off of the taxpayer and are unfair to thousands of federal

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**MARIJUANA PLANTS FOUND** — Patrolman David Jethro, above, of the Edenton Police Dept., and Deputy Sheriff Glenn Perry of the Chowan County Sheriff's Dept. received information last Saturday concerning the possibility of marijuana plants being grown on a vacant lot on Highway 32 East. Upon further investigation, Jethro, Patrolman Fred Spruill, Sgt. J.T. Norman and Chief Parrish found 29 marijuana plants growing, approximately 3 feet tall. The plants were pulled up and brought to the Police Station. The matter is still under investigation.

## Land Records Management Program Gets Recognition

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Chowan County, North Carolina, has been honored by the National Association of Counties (NACo) for its Land Records Management Program.

Chowan County was named a 1982 achievement award winner by NACo President J. Richard Conder. Achievement awards are presented to counties who have developed new programs which enhance or expand county services to citizens.

In making the announcement, President Conder congratulated the 1982 achievement award counties for their "special sensitivity to citizen needs and their efforts to strengthen county government".

Conder explained that achievement award case studies "are distributed by NACo to other counties to serve as examples of innovative programs."

The National Association of Counties is the Washington representative for county government in the United States. Out of a total of 3,105 county-type governments in the United States, NACo's 2,000-plus member counties represent approximately 98 per cent of the U.S. population.

County achievement awards will be presented at NACo's 1982 annual conference in Baltimore County (Baltimore), Maryland, July 10 - 14.

## Reorganization Gets Approval

RALEIGH — Charles F. Merrill, president and chief executive officer of Banshares of North Carolina, Inc., announced that the shareholders of Banshares, at their annual meeting held on June 30, overwhelmingly approved the plan of Reorganization and Merger Agreement relating to the acquisition by N.C. National Bank of substantially all of the assets of Banshares of North Carolina, Inc., including Bank of North Carolina.

The Agreement calls for an exchange of .9696 shares of the common stock of NCNB Corporation (the parent company of N.C. National Bank) for each share of Banshares common stock.

The reorganization and merger is subject to the approval of various regulatory authorities, including the Comptroller of the Currency.

## Blueprints Submitted For Holmes Renovation

By Richard Williams

T.S. Land of George Smart Architect Firm presented blueprints Tuesday night at the Edenton - Chowan Board of Education of the \$738,450 renovations set to begin in September at John A. Holmes High School.

Included in the sum total is a \$294,500 kitchen and dining area a \$190,650 student commons area. In a previous meeting the question of parking arose. According to Land, there will be plenty parking for activities as football games, graduations and similar events. The completion of the remodeling is set for August in 1983.

In other business the Board approved permission for the recreation department to install lights at Chowan Jr. High School Athletic Field.

Heard plans for next year's J.R.O.T.C. by Commander James Ryan.

Was highlighted on the progress of summer school by Jake Boyce.

Approved 1982 - 83 County budget appropriations upon recommendation by Superintendent John Dunn. (schools current expense - \$909,756; schools capital outlay - \$18,144; schools capital outlay - Phase I - \$80,000.)

Heard achievement tests results by Mary Horton.

In personnel matters, the Board accepted two high school faculty resignations while hiring three others - two at the central office and one at the John A. Holmes.

Geraldine Nixon, Science teacher, and Lorraine Jordan, Driver Education announced their resignations.

Walter Noneman will join the central office replacing Mary Rhea Gardner who recently retired and Susan ReVeal will join them as a Speech Therapist. Nan Copeland will be added to the John A. Holmes faculty as a teacher of Driver Education.

## Commercial Catfish Fishermen Facing Some Troubled Times

North Carolina commercial catfish fishermen are in trouble.

The fish are there to be caught but the market is shaky. Fishermen now sell large catfish for only 12 cents a pound, not enough to pay for boat motor fuel, and bait when needed. Even so, fish dealers could not sell quantities even if fishermen left the dock for low prices.

Commercial catfish effort is off 75 per cent, according to Murray Nixon, a fish dealer near Edenton.

According to Nixon, the problem is threefold: He ships large catfish to the midwest where unemployment is high and catfish demand is now low; Catfish imports from Brazil; and a large supply of United States pond-raised catfish.

Nixon gives 20 cents a pound for catfish under a half pound each, and could sell all he can get. This market could be in trouble soon when one considers United States production of pond-grown catfish - some 82 - million pounds in 1982.

Mississippi alone raised 61 - million pounds. That is an incredible amount when one considers the reported North Carolina commercial catch of all edible finfish was 69 million pounds during 1981. Catfish farmers nationwide are reportedly pushing to expand markets because they now grow more than they can sell profitably.

Many people turn their thumbs down at catfish, mainly because they have not tried them. Catfish have a bad public image to the general consumer, which is in error, because catfish is delicious.

The 1981 North Carolina commercial catfish catch was reported at 1.9 - million pounds, worth a half million dollars to fishermen. Over the past 25 years the catch, mostly from Albemarle Sound and its tributaries, ranged between 1 - 2 - million pounds annually.

The market problem for catfish, according to Nixon, began last year, but similar market problems occur yearly even with popular species, such as blue crabs and oysters.

Most folks focus on environmental problems of commercial fisheries, mainly water

quality. Clearly this is a focal point. During the past few months the focus on too much fishing pressure was also made understandable while the pros and cons of proposed increased commercial fishing license fees were discussed.

Market problems are in their own way as complex as the other main problems of man obtaining optimum yield from marine fisheries resources, even though marketing seems simple.

"How do you like your hamburger?" a fisheries specialist asked a National Fisherman editor.

"Medium, medium - rare, with

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## Assisting On Procedures Manual

BOONE — Sheriff T.E. Toppin is a member of the Jail Advisory Group, a group that has been working for about six months developing a policy and procedures manual for jails in North Carolina.

The group was established under a grant from the National Institute of Corrections received by the Criminal Justice Department at Appalachian State University.

Sheriff Toppin is one of only five sheriffs from the state selected for

participation in the jail project. The objectives of the jail policy and procedures project include a greater standardization of jail procedures, a more efficient jail operation and a decrease in legal actions brought against local jails and their personnel.

Sheriff Toppin has been working closely with members of the Governor's Crime Commission, the N.C. Justice Academy and the Institute of Government on this project.



**A NEW MIME DUET?** — No. These two youngsters had their faces painted at a booth in Waterfront Park as part of the July Fourth celebration. This was a big attraction for many youngsters, as evidenced by the many similar faces seen throughout the day. (See page 8. Staff photo by Jeffrey W. Winslow.)



**WASHINGTON COMMUNITY BAND** — The Washington Community Band scored a big hit with all participants in this year's July Fourth celebration, sponsored by the Edenton - Chowan Optimist Club. Their style of music was very well received, especially the ragtime music they performed. This year's celebration, true to advance billing, proved to be bigger and better than ever. (See page 8. Staff photo by Jeffrey W. Winslow.)



**PENNY HUNT** — The youngsters at this year's "Fabulous Fourth of July Celebration" enjoyed the Penny Hunt. Optimist Club members scattered 5000 pennies around, then the children tried to find as many as they could. (See page 8. Staff photo by Jeffrey W. Winslow.)