

Public Parade

More On Fishing

The N.C. Marine Fisheries Division has been on the receiving end lately of some bad press along the Public Parade and throughout Coastal Carolina. We happen to number among those who have confidence in the leadership although there have been times when the grass roots communication has broken down.

Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., didn't have to sign an Executive Order to get the attention of those in command. There is already evidence of a more cooperative attitude among the power structure, but it will take some time for all the bad to be cleansed.

The Marine Fisheries Commission, for example, proposes to close down Albemarle Sound and its tributaries to net fishing from June 1 through August 31. This amendment is among those proposed in a draft public notice which has been given limited distribution.

The notice doesn't go into the thinking behind such a drastic maneuver. The scientists must have a reason, but we seriously doubt that the proposed cure will help the illness, if one in fact, exists. What the action would do is pure and simple - it would put commercial fishermen hereabouts out of business for 90 days out of the year.

The Marine Fisheries Commission on July 21 completed a series of public meetings that took members along the coast seeking input from fishermen on changes in marine fisheries regulations. The local public facilities are still standing, so it is reasonable to expect that the Albemarle Sound matter didn't get on the agenda. But it will come up when the commission meets again August 18 in Morehead City to take final action on the proposed changes.

Earl Smith is an able member of the commission. He can't battle the bureaucrats alone. Public support is needed to insure an acceptable balance in the fishing industry.

Bread And Water

It is hard to believe that anyone associated with agriculture along the Public Parade or elsewhere in Tar Heelia could have a sense of humor these days. But, John Sledge, president of the N.C. Farm Bureau Federation, recently distributed a tongue-in-cheek piece which we want to pass along.

"Bread And Water" was the title he gave his regular article for Accent on Agriculture. Here it is:

There was a time when eating was fun, one of life's real pleasures. That was before we Americans discovered that eating is hazardous to our health.

As youngsters, we were taught to eat several selections daily from the four food groups. Now, we're learning to be suspect of anything edible.

Let's look at a typical breakfast. The bacon and sausage that we love so much have nitrites and fat. Our eggs have cholesterol. Hash browns are fried - another no-no. Milk has too much butterfat. Our cereals, we're told, aren't really nutritious and we eat them with too much sugar. Coffee is suspected of causing possible heart problems. This is breakfast, the meal mothers promote to their children as the most important meal of the day.

We could settle for a glass of water and that all-time favorite breakfast item - toast. But, can we really trust toast?

No, say some scientists from Kansas State University. Toasting our bread, they claim, promotes a chemical reaction that reduces protein building amino acids in bread and converts nutrients into unusable forms. The scientists say it would be more nutritious if we didn't toast our bread.

Do you realize that our breakfast has just been reduced to bread and water? Maybe when we threw convicts in the hole and fed them bread and water, we were doing them a favor. If we'd known then what we know today, we could have threatened them with bacon and eggs, hash browns, cereal, milk, coffee and toast. That would have made them change their ways!

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NORTH CAROLINA 2000 — Recently a questionnaire from the NC 2000 club was distributed across the county and state in March asking people their top goal for the future. Members of the club in Chowan Co. who helped were numerous. Above are a few of the club members who helped: first row, left to right, Harriett Abbe, James Taylor and Betty Cox; second row, left to right, Pete Thompson, county chairman; Mike Williams and Cliff Copeland.

Quality Education Is No. 1 Goal For Chowan County

Citizens in Chowan County ranked "good quality education for our children" as their top goal for the state's future, in response to the North Carolina 2000 citizen questionnaire distributed in the county and across the state in March, according to R.M. (Pete) Thompson, county chairman.

Ranked second by local citizens was "enough good jobs" and third, "adequate, clean water supply."

The questionnaire was part of the NC 2000 long range planning project. It was done to get citizens thinking about their own agendas for North Carolina's future, to give state officials a sense of local priorities, and to get citizens participating in the discussion of where we are headed as a state.

The questionnaire was sponsored by the Commission on the Future of North Carolina, which directs the project, and NC 2000 county committees. It was distributed to citizens through

libraries, schools, banks, and civic clubs and reprinted in many newspapers.

Questionnaire results were released by Governor Jim Hunt, who initiated the NC 2000 project in 1981 and by UNC President William Friday, chairman of the Commission on the Future.

"We received 112,000 replies, which I think is refreshing evidence that people do care enough about their state to volunteer their answers to the questionnaire and spend 20 cents to send them in," said Gov. Hunt.

Statewide, North Carolinians listed as their chief priorities for the future:

Good quality education for our children

Enough good jobs

Adequate protection from crime

Fair system of taxes

Adequate affordable housing

The questionnaire presented 22 areas of future concern and asked

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DOT Reaffirms Commitment To Repair Albemarle Sound Bridge

Any fears that the Albemarle Sound Bridge, connecting Chowan and Washington counties, would be closed were put to rest here Monday afternoon. State Department of Transportation officials restated a commitment to keep the 3.5-mile link open at almost any cost.

At the same time, local and regional officials gathered additional material to support efforts to get the \$40-million needed to replace the state's longest bridge. Sen. Melvin R. Daniels, Jr., of Pasquotank County, went so far as to suggest that the State of North Carolina establish a timetable,

"written in blood" to put aside \$10-million per year until sufficient funds are available to pay for a new bridge.

Sen. Daniels was joined at the meeting in the old Chowan County Court House by Sen. J.J. (Monk) Harrington of Bertie; and Reps. Vernon James of Pasquotank and

Charles Evans of Dare. But it was Sen. Daniels who was most critical of the DOT for neglecting the bridge. He said the state has had two bond issues and a gasoline tax increase without any state money being designated for the project which he described as being so critical to the economic, social, recreational and medical aspects of Northeastern North Carolina.

C.A. Phillips, chairman, Chowan County commissioners, presided at the meeting which drew representation from Perquimans, Pasquotank, Washington and Tyrrell counties, including the Towns of Edenton and Hertford. Afterwards, Phillips declared: "We have had a fruitful meeting!"

The chairman was especially pleased that Willie Riddick, a representative of the office of Rep. Walter B. Jones of the First Congressional District, was present. It was also noted that U.S. Sens. Jesse Helms and John East, while unable to send a representative, are concerned about the problem and requested a report from the meeting which was attended by about 75 people. Riddick promised that Rep. Jones "is going to muster all the strength possible to break something loose."

A state official, Cameron Lee, assistant administrator of highways, said Rep. Jones had already made some headway by getting

the Highway 32 bridge listed in pending legislation. Lee said it has proven helpful in obtaining federal funds when "examples" include specific projects.

Jimmy Lee, DOT bridge director, said work would begin in mid-week on the replacement of some 40 piles which have been determined to be in bad condition. He said the cost will be upwards of \$200,000 and the work will take some 45 working days - or 10 to 11 weeks.

Lee presented the results of a recent study of the condition of the bridge. Afterwards, he said: "The DOT is committed to maintaining the bridge. It will not be closed." He added, that the work begun this week will probably have to be repeated every couple of years until the bridge is replaced.

Marc Basnight of Dare County DOT board member, explained

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CONCERN OVER SOUND BRIDGE — Heads of government along the Albemarle Sound were among those gathered here Monday to discuss the condition of the Highway 32 bridge. Left to right are: Marc Basnight of Dare County, a member of the DOT board; Mrs. Mamie Davenport, chairman, Washington County commissioners; Rep. Charles Evans of Dare; C.A. Phillips, chairman, Chowan County commissioners; and Willie Riddick, representatives of U.S. Rep. Walter B. Jones.



Raleigh Carver and Marc Basnight



Rep. Charles Evans Al Howard W.B. Gardner

Bloodmobile Exceeds Quota

The American Red Cross Bloodmobile visited Chowan County July 20 at Chowan Hospital. The Edenton Jaycee-sponsored event, which lasted from noon until 6 P.M., had a goal of 150 units of blood. When they left, thanks to the donations of Chowan County citizens, it was with 168 units of blood from 188 donors.

"This was the most successful summer bloodmobile in several years," said Bruce Wackelin, Chowan County chairman of the bloodmobile. "We extend a special thanks to Johnny Bryan, hospital administrator, who provided the space and assistance to make this a success."

Others who contributed to the bloodmobile's success were: the American Legion Ladies Auxiliary, headed by Doris Bohn, who were responsible for the canteen; the Hospital Auxiliary, led by Mrs. Thelma Smith; the Edenton Jaycees directed by Janice Dunn; The Edenton Jaycees, who sponsor the bloodmobile in Chowan County; the HOSA Club students; Claire Mills; Charlotte Baker and the administrative staff at the

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Probable Cause Hearing Set

A probable cause hearing is set for Aug. 10 for a shooting that occurred in Edenton last weekend.

Earl Lee Harris, 37, was charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to do serious bodily injury in the shooting incident that took place outside of the Blue Bird Cafe Friday night. Harris' bond was set at \$10,000. He remained in jail Wednesday.

Cornelius Leary Leary, 18, was taken to the Chowan Hospital for treatment and was released two days later.

Investigating the shooting were Officers F.M. Parker and D.G. Lane. Reports concede that Harris pulled out a gun and shot three times in front of the cafe hitting Leary in his lower right hip with what was described as a "small caliber pistol."

Cost of Taking COA Classes Nearly Doubled

Area residents who plan to enroll in certain extension courses offered by the Continuing Education division at College of The Albemarle this fall will find that the cost of learning a practical skill or pursuing an avocation has almost doubled.

Clayton Morrisette, continuing education director, said registration fees for courses in these categories have been in-

creased from \$8 to \$15 by the General Assembly. The new fee schedules became effective July 15.

"Courses relating to sewing, needlework, ceramics, energy conservation, practical plumbing, and small engine maintenance are considered to be in the 'hobby' classification by the legislature," Morrisette said. "These are just examples of a few from a total of

99 on the Department of Community Colleges' list."

The director said that last year COA scheduled 558 extension courses, registering 8,034 students. "Of these," he explained, "some 368 would have fallen within the \$15.00 fee schedule, affecting 4,900 students."

Academic and occupational
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